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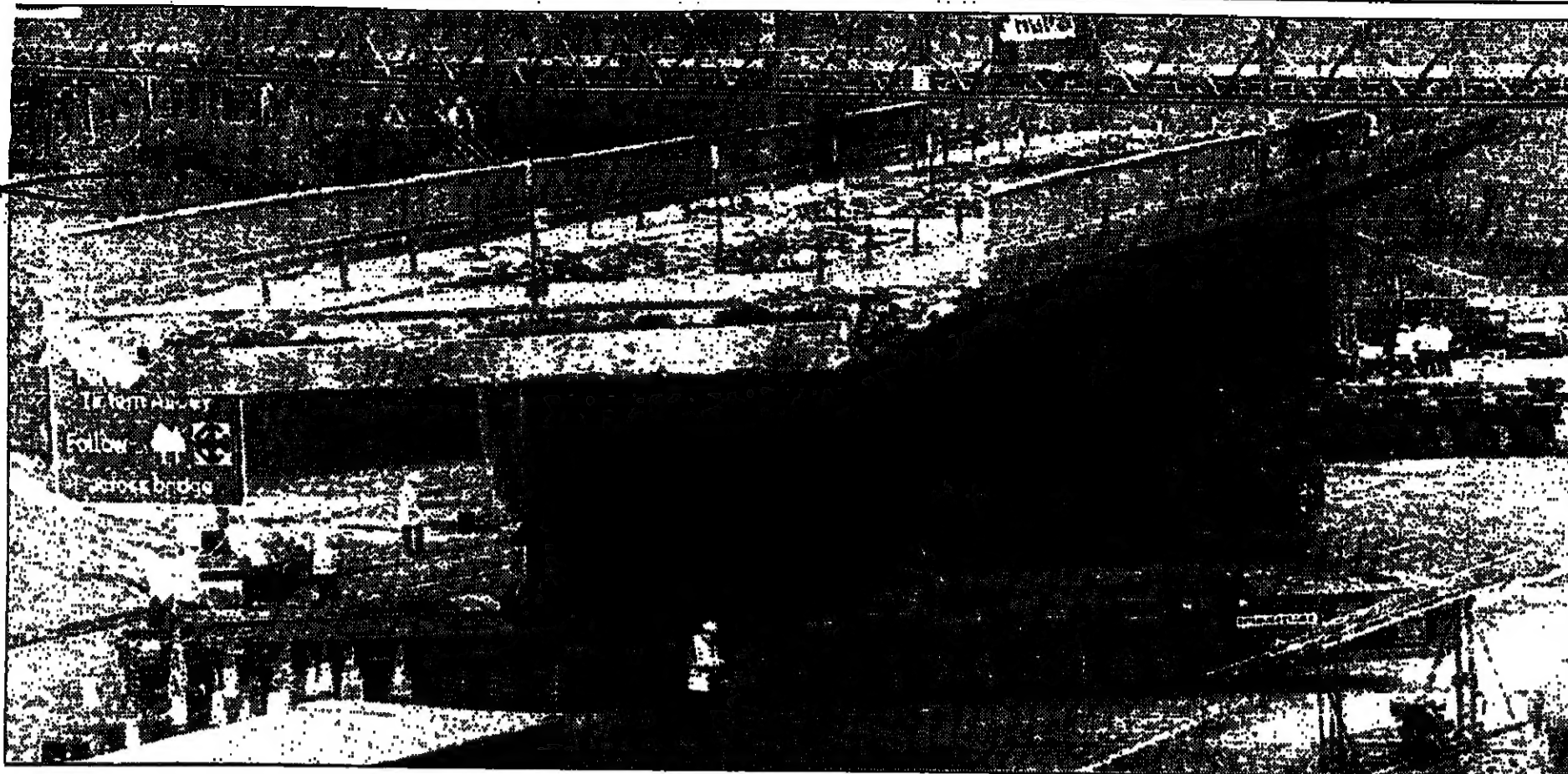
No 64,269

MONDAY MARCH 2 1992

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Thousands of motorists face delays as 2,000-tonne bridge gets stuck on motorway



In the slow lane: engineers weighing the enormity of the task ahead yesterday. The motorway is expected to reopen at midday today

Removal lorry grinds to a halt

By Peter Victor

SEVERE congestion built up last night on the M4 and motorists face even greater frustration today after a complete 2,000-tonne bridge ground to a halt as it was being moved.

A two-mile section of the M4 east of the Severn Bridge crossing between Almondsbury and Aust was closed for the removal operation and was expected to reopen at midday today.

The removal of the 79 metre Ingot Road bridge should have represented the pinnacle of modern engineering as the heaviest load transported by road, but it has been affected by technical hitches.

After it was cut free and loaded on to multi-wheeled computerised transporters its weight caused the wheels of one transporter to sink into the roadside. Then it began to crack, forcing engineers to halt the operation. Last night it had still not moved from its position slung across the mo-

torway 30 yards from its original site. The £300,000 operation to remove the bridge, built in 1966, began at 11pm on Friday and had been expected to last 36 hours.

Local authority officials are inspecting 600 bridges in the southwest region on behalf of the transport department as part of a 15-year assessment programme. They are concerned about the ability of road bridges to cope with 40 tonnes lorries by 1999.

The Ingot Road bridge was found to have "insufficient spare capacity". Put simply, its centre span was not strong enough to cope with expected traffic. Although there are five other similar bridges in the region none is thought to

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TODAY IN
THE TIMES

NIGHTMARE
ON ELM ST



Was JFK
killed by
his
bodyguard?
Life & Times
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ROOMS WITH
A VIEW



Dick Whittington
and the
art of
healing
Life & Times
Page 5

THE ELEPHANT
MEN



Africans
who want
to kill out
of kindness
Pages 7 & 14

£4 m fee to sit at home

A London consultant paediatrician has been paid £250,000 to sit at home and do nothing, since being suspended on full pay nine years ago.

The health department is reviewing procedures for handling such cases after the failure of efforts to speed up the process. One study group says that 70 senior doctors have been suspended in the past six years and 19 cases remain unresolved. Page 3

Croatia vote to be recognised

An overwhelming majority of Croats and Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina have voted for independence in a referendum, and the republic expects immediate recognition. Montenegro is likely to seek stronger ties with Serbia in an effort to build a new Yugoslavia. Page 11

Target missed

Many parents have never received a leaflet sent to schools as part of a £2 million campaign to explain government education reforms, a Times survey discloses. Page 5

Man hunted

Police are searching for a neighbour of Adele James, who was found strangled in Pembroke. The killer is believed to have broken into her home and forced her to leave her sleeping children. Page 3

Iraq warned

Britain has warned Iraq that it faces renewed military action to destroy the country's Scud missile factories. Page 12

England draw

Rain denied England's cricketers a third World Cup victory. After dismissing Pakistan for 74, England reached 24 for one before the downpour forced a draw. Page 32

Mansell wins

Nigel Mansell won the opening grand prix of the Formula One motor racing season at Kyalami in South Africa. Ayrton Senna, the world champion, was third. Page 34

Cabinet rules out big giveaway Budget

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

SENIOR ministers yesterday ruled out a big giveaway Budget next week amid growing concern that deep tax cuts paid for by huge borrowing could jeopardise the Tories' opinion poll lead on economic management.

The move to lower expectations for the Budget intended to be a springboard for an April 9 election came as the latest opinion poll suggested that the Conservatives were holding their lead over Labour on the economy in spite of the grim industrial news of the past month.

The Mori survey for Times Newspapers gave the Tories an 11-point lead over Labour on the critical issue of economic competence. A separate Mori finding showed that two people in three wanted higher spending on public services in preference to tax cuts.

The cabinet intervention, said to reflect the thinking of John Major and Norman

Lamont, was aimed at quelling speculation that a proposed £5 million Budget giveaway, paid for by a public sector borrowing requirement of £30 billion, would jeopardise what the Tories believe is their reputation for "good housekeeping".

Sources spoke of the Chancellor giving the economy no more than a "tweak". Tory MPs will see this as a signal that Mr Lamont is unlikely to cut the basic rate of income tax by more than 1p. His aim will be to borrow less than £25 billion.

The monetarist Liverpool group of economists, led by Professor Patrick Minford, yesterday added to concern that voters did not want to be bribed with their own money.

They said in a report that the government was embarked on tax cuts "just when, as a result of their laxity in public expenditure, there is no longer any case for doing so". The Tories were determined to wreck the public finances, the group said.



Prof Minford: voters do not want tax cuts

Margaret Thatcher is believed to share these concerns, also echoed by Cecil Parkinson, her former party chairman.

Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader, said that voters realised that tax cuts would be "foot's gold", money that disappeared in their hands as soon as the Tories clawed the borrowed money back by raising value-added tax. "The

British people will not be bribed."

Cabinet ministers sought to steady Tory nerves over the Budget by insisting that the most important thing was for the government to retain its reputation for economic competence and prudence. "We are not going to give away our biggest card," one source said.

Against this background, ministers insisted there was still scope for modest reductions in personal taxation and extra help for business.

Most confirmed the message of other polls that the Tories and Labour are running neck and neck and that the Liberal Democrats are making a slight advance.

The Tories will today launch a nationwide poster campaign attacking Neil Kinnock's economic policies. Labour will renew its claims that the Conservatives have a hidden agenda to put up VAT after an election victory. It will step up accusations that they are planning to borrow to bribe voters. On Wednesday, the Liberal Democrats will unveil an alternative budget calling for higher capital investment in schools.

Last night Chris Patten, the Tory party chairman, said: "Labour would hit the economy with the 'double whammy' of more taxes and higher prices."

With the polls pointing to a hung Parliament, the Liberal Democrats insisted they would not deal with any party that denied them proportional representation. They renewed their threat to vote down the Queen's Speech and provoke a second general election unless their demands were met.

Charles Kennedy, their president, said on BBC television "PR is the key that unlocks the door to constitutional reform elsewhere (in Scotland and Wales). It's also the key for getting a stable four-year government."

Continued on page 18, col 6

IRA bomb fails to deter 28,000 football fans

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Correspondent

MORE than 28,000 football supporters ignored an IRA bomb threat and went to the Rumbelows Cup semi-final between Tottenham Hotspur and Nottingham Forest yesterday, even though a small device had been found at White Hart Lane station.

The bomb was found and defused hours before the station was due to receive thousands of supporters. A second alert led to a 90-minute delay to the start of the match, as staff were moved out of the north London ground and supporters were marshalled in surrounding streets.

The bomb scare came as the IRA threatened a continued campaign of mainland violence to force the issue of Ulster high on the political

agenda during the general election and admitted responsibility for three London bombings in less than 72 hours.

The warning came after a blast on Saturday evening at the central London offices of the Crown Prosecution Service in High Holborn, which slightly injured a woman passer-by when a small bomb on the steps exploded. On Friday, train and London Underground services were disrupted for hours after a bomb exploded at London Bridge station, injuring 29.

Yesterday's emergency began when the device was spotted by a member of the public standing on the platform of the station at about 9.20 am. Police believe

bombers climbed an embankment to place the explosive on the track.

Officers from the Anti-Terrorist Squad were working on the small device when St Pancras Hospital in north London received a telephone call with a coded warning at 10.09 am of a bomb at the station timed to explode in an hour. The device was made safe at 10.40 am.

The station manager, Stephen Coates, said that six football train specials carrying more than 7,000 fans were expected at the station before the match. The gate

Continued on page 18, col 6

Hemingway prose ended on editor's spike

FROM JOHN BEST
IN OTTAWA

ERNEST Hemingway no doubt hated to admit it in later life, but a Canadian paper yesterday revealed that he, too, suffered the indignity of the editor's "spike" as a young reporter. The *Sunday Star* of Toronto published a collection of long-lost newspaper stories by the youthful Hemingway, a number of them "spiked", or discarded as unusable at the time, or issued under pseudonyms.

The articles, including an interview with Georges Clemenceau in 1922 rejected by the *Star* managing editor, are from the period 1920 to 1923 when the American novelist worked at the newspaper. They were not included in an anthology of Hemingway's *Star* dispatches, titled *Byline Toronto*. Some were without a byline, others appeared under the Hemingway pen name, Peter Jackson. A reporter, William Burrill, has

spent more than a year unearthing the collection, digging through Hemingway papers in libraries in Boston, at Princeton University and in Paris, in addition to the *Star* archives. Hemingway worked for the *Star* first as a freelance, then as a staff writer and a Paris-based foreign correspondent.

He left the newspaper at the end of 1923 — having made sure of collecting his Christmas bonus — not long after having had a run-in with the managing editor for failing to report an address of welcome to Lloyd George by the New York City mayor. After leaving Toronto, Hemingway went to New York and then sailed to Paris, where he began work on *The Sun Also Rises*, which propelled him to fame and fortune.

Hemingway's interview with Clemenceau, in 1922, shows how he was moving away from ordinary reporting and toward a short-story form of writing, portraying people in dramatised vi-

gnettes: "A bulky man, thickened by age, wearing a brown tweed suit, a funny, flat cap, his face as brown as an Ojibway, his white moustache drooping, his white eyebrows bushy, looking the tiger his pictures show him, his eyes twinkling as he talked to his plump daughter-in-law, he came plodding through the sand..."

The *Star* refused to print the piece because Clemenceau had some uncompromising things to say about Canada's effort in the first world war when Hemingway suggested that Clemenceau pay a visit to Canada. "At the word Canada, his face went tiger," Hemingway's account said. In a letter conveying the decision by the *Star* not to publish the story, the managing editor wrote: "As his (Clemenceau's) reference to Canada constitutes the most interesting part of the interview, I don't think we should use it at all, although I hate to pass up your excellent color."



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Bridge of sighs proves to be a not unmoving spectator event

THE clouds that tipped a steady drizzle on to the West Country yesterday would normally have provided adequate reason to stay indoors and watch television. Instead the locals flocked to various unpromising locations near Almondsbury interchange, outside Bristol, where the 2000 ton Ings road bridge over the M4 was being sawn off at either end and carried on transporters to its last resting place, having been declared unfit to carry traffic.

The public had shown little interest in this exercise, which started on Friday night and was supposed to finish by 11am yesterday, until it showed signs of going wrong. Or, as one of the

Clutching sandwiches and a flask of stewed tea, Peter Barnard enjoys a moving experience on a West Country lay-by

onlookers, Ted Williams, put it: "I came out when I heard on the radio they'd cocked it up." Mr Williams was among more than 20 people in cars parked door to door in a lay-by not normally regarded as a beauty spot.

There were people with sandwiches and flasks, there were people with radios tuned to the police band. Some brought binoculars, one held a Camcorder. Toddlers slept in back seats and older children splashed through puddles. Just visible through three fields away was the

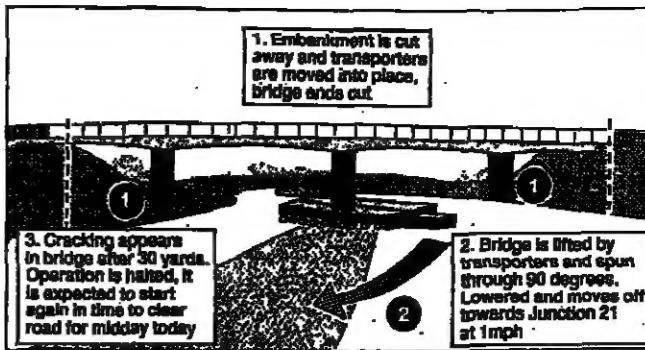
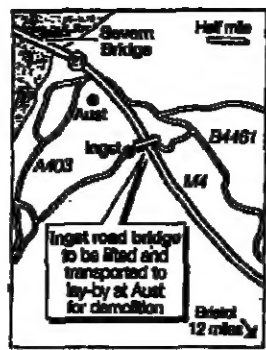
bridge itself. Being there seemed essential, though the lay-by onlookers declared the trip impossible. Thirty miles and five wrong turnings later, I fetched up in the hamlet of Ings where there rested three portable offices and two mobile toilets: strategic high command.

This is the temporary home of the main contractor, Nuttalls, though perhaps not as temporary as it had hoped. Nuttalls has been at work since August, carving out the embankment at each end of the bridge, separating the

bridge from its supports and installing a Bailey bridge which is carrying a 4in water main across the motorway.

A handful of spectators and two dogs had made it this far and yesterday afternoon they were gazing at the unusual sight of a bridge balanced on giant transporters which have between them 238 wheels. The tyres on these wheels are solid, which is just as well, given the perils attached to changing a wheel on a motorway.

As with conventional public entertainment, such as football or politics, there was no shortage of people who would have had it sorted out by now had they been in charge. The favourite was blowing up the bridge, which



is how such things are normally handled, but as Paul Smith of Nuttalls explained, wearing the sleepless look not normally associated with PR men: "Blowing it up would have risked blowing up half

the village, so that was out of the question."

The delay happened on Saturday, when the transporters, owned by the subcontractors Econofreight, got into position under the

bridge. The wheels, each of which is turned independently, sunk slightly on one side of the motorway during the turning. By late last night this problem had been overcome and the drawn out task

of gently lowering the bridge on to the transporters was almost over. That left a small's pace journey along the motorway.

It also left the people of Ings in something of a state. Lance Lyons, a farmer, said: "The nearest place of any size is Thornbury, which was a four mile journey until they closed the bridge. Now we have to travel 13 miles. They should have just restricted the bridge to light traffic." A good many delayed commuters will probably share that view this morning, but at least the drama provided a very British Sunday afternoon, complete with stewed tea and conflicting advice. And that was just the spectators.

Tories lose backing on economy

Poll puts Kinnock at 15 short of majority

BY ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

LABOUR would be the biggest party in the Commons, with 311 seats, if the latest opinion poll figures were repeated nationwide at the general election, but Neil Kinnock would still be 15 seats short of an overall majority.

The latest Mori poll, conducted from February 21-25, measured support at Labour 40 per cent, Conservatives 39 per cent, Liberal Democrats 18 per cent and others 3 per cent. In the same poll a month before, the Conservatives had a three point lead. However, Labour is down on its lead of three and four points in some recent polls.

Fewer Scots say they want a split

FEWER Scots are backing independence or devolution, according to the latest Mori opinion poll in Scotland (Robin Oakley writes). The number backing the status quo is up by more than half while the numbers of those supporting full independence or devolution have dropped by four points and five points respectively since January.

John Major's strategy of polarising the independence debate by playing a strong unionist card appears to be succeeding in squeezing Labour and increasing support for the nationalists, raising Tory hopes of avoiding an election rout in Scotland.

In January, 40 per cent of those polled supported total independence or independence within the EC, 42 per cent supported devolution

evidence that the issues on which Labour traditionally does well are coming to the fore, that the prime minister's popularity is slipping and that the Conservative lead in perceived ability to handle the economy is declining.

With the Liberal Democrats continuing to advance, Paddy Ashdown has increased his personal ratings in a number of key areas. John Major retains a clear lead over Neil Kinnock on most leadership qualities in the eyes of the public.

When people were asked what were the most important issues facing Britain, 56 per cent said unemployment,

49 per cent the National Health Service, 40 per cent the economy and 27 per cent education. The NHS is up six points on a month ago, education and the economy are up three points, and unemployment is up two points.

Mr Kinnock has concentrated his attack on economic issues lately, seeking to undermine the Tory lead on economic competence and to pin blame for the recession on Mr Major personally.

When people were asked which party had the best policies for managing the economy, 36 per cent named the Conservatives and 24 per cent Labour. The 12-point Tory lead is down four points on January, but still eight points up on the last month under Margaret Thatcher's leadership.

When people were asked which party they trusted most to run the economy, the Conservatives were named by 39 per cent, Labour by 28 per cent and the Liberal Democrats by 13 per cent.

When asked which leader would best manage the economy, 47 per cent named John Major and 31 per cent Neil Kinnock, giving the prime minister a 16-point lead. However, in December, Mr Major had a 27-point lead on that question on a 54-27 per cent split. The latest figure represents a 5.5 per cent swing to Mr Kinnock.

Mori interviewed a representative quota sample of 2,952 adults at 233 constituency sampling points throughout Great Britain. Interviews were face to face. Data were weighted to match population profile.

Budget expectations, page 1
Peter Kiddle, page 14

Tories spike Labour guns with toned-down BR plan

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MINISTERS have toned down plans for privatising British Rail to try to remove political ammunition from Labour during the election campaign.

They have scrapped proposals for a wholesale sell-off of the network in favour of a compromise formula that combines private-sector involvement with a radically overhauled BR. The reorganisation will be led by a manifesto commitment to end British Rail's monopoly over railway services and to allow private operators to run competing passenger and freight trains.

The next stage, also to be detailed in the manifesto, would be a franchising of InterCity's services. Private firms would lease routes, stock and stations and run trains on present routes.

The electoral sensitivity of the future of the railways was underlined yesterday by senior ministers, who said privately that they were determined to avoid a "poll tax on wheels". They were adamant that the break-up formula should not lay the govern-

ment open to Labour charges that it was intent on selling the profitable parts of the network and closing the rest.

The new scheme is a departure from the two competing options that have been at the heart of prolonged cabinet infighting over the future of the network.

Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, has backed away from his insistence that InterCity, the most profitable part of the empire, should be sold as a going concern. Equally, John Major has relaxed his pressure for a return to the four regional railway companies of the pre-war era.

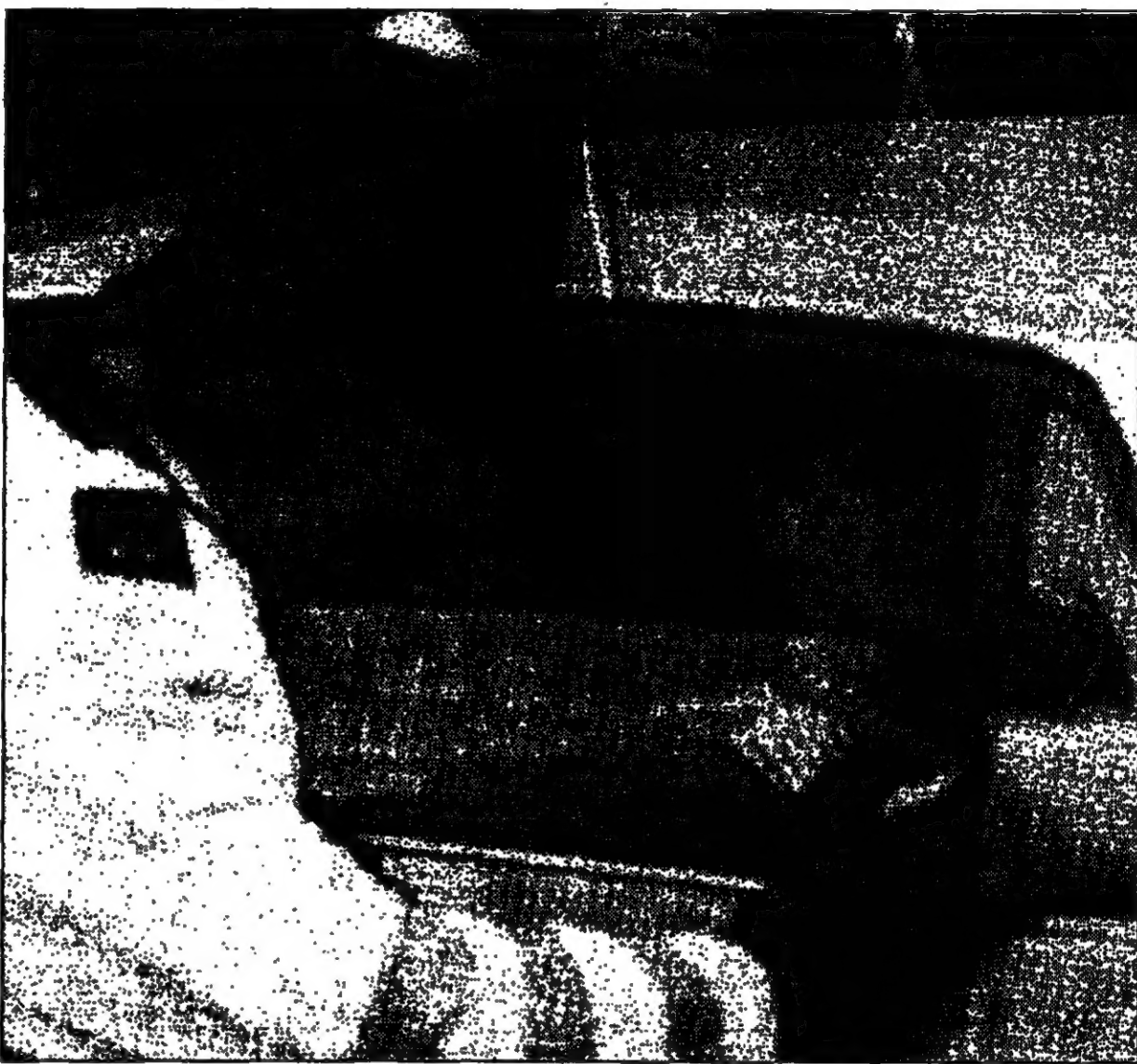
Ministerial sources said yesterday that the new "step-by-step" approach combined elements of both solutions. InterCity would be the initial

focus of the sell-off.

A new track authority, similar to the Civil Aviation Authority, would administer the competitive new system and a separate regulatory body would be charged with ensuring safety.

Mr Rifkind insisted yesterday that the proposals would guarantee the continuation of present services, would protect subsidies and would lead to greater use of the railways.

John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, said that on safety grounds he was opposed to ending British Rail's monopoly, which gives it a veto over access to the network and requires the use of its crews, paid at national rates. But he did want to change accounting rules to give British Rail access to private finance.



Bomb patrol: Gary Lineker of Spurs is told about the bomb that delayed yesterday's Tottenham match

Hume tells clergy to talk to IRA

BY EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Hume, leader of the nationalist SDLP in Ulster, yesterday appealed to the Roman Catholic clergy in Ireland to open direct negotiations with the IRA to try to achieve a ceasefire.

His call came as further details emerged about a meeting between Presbyterian ministers in Northern Ireland and the Loyalist Ulster Defence Association, also aimed at a ceasefire and held within the last two weeks.

Speaking on Irish television, Mr Hume welcomed news of the initiative by the Presbyterian church. He said he would like to see similar contact between Catholic clergy and the IRA and the republican splinter group the IPLO (Irish Peoples Liberation Organisation). Mr



Hume: contacts needed in hunt for ceasefire

Hume added that it was quite wrong to dismiss the IRA as mindless gangsters, implying that serious approaches to them were vital. "If they were mindless gangsters they would be very easily dealt with. They are actually a highly organised organisation motivated by very traditional view points."

Mr Hume's remarks follow a formal denial by the Catholic church of a report in *The Sunday Times* yesterday that it was already involved in a parallel initiative to that of the Presbyterian church to try to persuade the IRA to lay down its weapons.

The newspaper said the opening of contacts between low level church envoys and the IRA was part of a co-ordinated strategy being monitored by leaders of the four main churches in Ireland, including Cardinal Cahal Daly, the Roman Catholic primate, and Archbishop Robin Eames, his Anglican counterpart.

In Belfast sources inside the UDA were quoted as saying that its meeting with three Presbyterian ministers was at a hotel in the city in the past few weeks. The UDA was represented at the talks by six members of its inner council. The church was represented by Godfrey Brown and Jack Weir, former moderators, and Roy Magee, a dergman from Dundonald.

During the mainland campaign of 1973, the IRA took the view that one bomb in central London was worth almost any number in Belfast.

In that wave of attacks the IRA first struck during a train dispute, trying to hit Scotland Yard, the Old Bailey, a BBC office and army offices off Whitehall with car bombs. Within months the targets included West End stores and three London main line stations.

In 1985 police arrested an IRA unit planning time bomb attacks on 12 British resorts and ports which would have caused chaos at the height of the holiday season. Police believe the unit had also considered an attack on Wembley stadium. The IRA has taken to heart the observation on political violence offered by the ancient Chinese philosopher, Sun Tzu: "Kill one, frighten 10,000". Stewart Tandler writes

Bombers use art of terror publicity

Irish bombers know well the lesson of a Chinese philosopher who said 'Kill one, frighten 10,000'. Stewart Tandler writes

SEVENTY years ago in the aftermath of the battle to create the Irish republic, an official War Office record paid tribute to the way its republican opponents had used publicity with unrivalled energy, subtlety and skill. Yet again in the past three days the inheritors of that cause have demonstrated that the art is not lost.

Since the early days of the present conflict the IRA has aimed to attract publicity. A study of 60 bomb attacks in July 1974 showed that 80 per cent were timed to get maximum television coverage.

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had also considered an attack on Wembley stadium. The IRA has taken to heart the observation on political violence offered by the ancient Chinese philosopher, Sun Tzu: "Kill one, frighten 10,000."

On Friday the bomb at London Bridge touched millions of commuters and Londoners. Yesterday's bomb near Tottenham Hotspur affected not only 28,000 football supporters but millions of television viewers as well, as programmes were rescheduled.

The police and transport authorities face a familiar dilemma. They must assess how serious each threat is, aware that closing down transport links for hours can be devastating. The police have begun efforts to prevent over-dramatisation of the attacks and create hysteria, and tighter nightly searches on trains and the London Underground system have been introduced.

London is not experiencing anything like the almost nightly activities of the Balcombe Street gang in the mid-1970s. But the tempo of attacks has suddenly increased and a general election is uncomfortably close.

John Grigg, page 14
Letters, page 15

Schoolboy climber falls 300ft

A 13-year-old London boy who fell 300ft from a Lake District mountain ledge was seriously ill with head injuries in hospital last night.

The boy, who has not been named, was with a party of pupils and staff from Westminster school walking along Striding Edge, Helvellyn, on Saturday, when he slipped and fell. He was brought to safety by the Patterdale mountain rescue team and the Ullswater Outward Bound team.

On Ben Nevis members of the Lochaber mountain rescue team and an RAF rescue helicopter rescued a climber who broke his leg in a fall near the summit. The rescue was being coordinated by Fort William police.

Dr David Thomas, aged 35, of Stroud, Gloucestershire, fell 700ft down a gully.

Dr Thomas was carried to safety on a stretcher by members of the RAF Leuchars and Lochaber mountain rescue teams.

Drugs seized

Three people will appear in court in Harwich, Essex, today after being arrested when customs investigators seized heroin worth over £3.5 million on a coach from The Netherlands on the ferry Stenna Britannica. In an unconnected case at Harwich, three kilograms of cocaine worth over £500,000 was found on two passengers who arrived on the ferry. Two men have been charged.

University gets £5m donation

The property tycoon leading the controversial Spitalfields development on the City of London borders has donated £5 million to Cambridge University, where he studied law.

The donation by Peter Beckwith will be divided between building projects for biochemistry, law and management studies. Mr Beckwith is thought to have made £40 million from his share of the sale of a property company set up with his brother five years after graduating from Emmanuel College in 1966.

CORRECTION

Harold Pinter tells us that President Havel (Diary, February 26) did not dress up and mimic "the worst afflictions of corrupt old Stalinist power" when they met in Prague in 1990.

Crossword winners

THE Leeds regional final of the 22nd Times Crossword Championship, the first to be sponsored by British Rail's InterCity, was won yesterday at the Queens Hotel Leeds by William Pilkington, budget officer for Cleveland.

Mr Pilkington, aged 44, from Middlesbrough, completed the four puzzles in an average of seven minutes and 15 seconds each. He won the national championship in 1987 and 1988.

David Adams, aged 42, a solicitor from Sheffield and a former Leeds champion, was second, a minute and half per puzzle behind the winner. Peter Mayo, aged 48, senior lecturer in Russian and Slavonic Studies at Sheffield University, was third, and Brenda Widger, a housewife from Altrincham, Cheshire, fourth. Mrs Widger, aged 39, is a former classical graduate and computer analyst.

All four go forward to the national final at the Hilton Hotel, in London, on July 26.

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BMA attacks enquiry delays

Doctors paid £1,000 a week to do nothing

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR doctors, some paid more than £1,000 a week, are off work while health authorities take months or years to investigate complaints against them. Efforts to streamline the disciplinary machinery have failed to speed up the handling of the most difficult cases because health authorities are not applying it correctly, says the British Medical Association.

The health department will review the procedure, which was last revised in March 1990. In one case, a consultant paediatrician in east London, Bridget O'Connell, has been paid more than £250,000 for doing nothing since she was suspended on full pay nine years ago from her post at the Barking and King George hospitals in Redbridge. Efforts to resolve the case have failed and Dr O'Connell has launched a

court action against the North East Thames regional health authority.

Dr O'Connell was originally suspended on a charge of "professional misconduct" based on her alleged "inability to relate effectively to her clinical colleagues" after making protests about the provision of care for the newborn. But the health authority has never held a formal disciplinary inquiry into her case.

The authority tried to persuade her to accept early retirement but Dr O'Connell, aged 58, said that she wanted her job back. Sources say the situation reached deadlock because of the "unanimous opposition" to her returning by consultants at Redbridge.

William Kearns, medical director of the North East Thames region, said the case was exceptional. The authority had tried to reach an agreed settlement which avoided the difficulty and expense of a formal procedure. "When action is taken late you get these problems."

No figures are collected centrally on the number of doctors suspended but a British Medical Association spokesman said they appeared to be increasing. A study group of the Society of Clinical Psychologists, which has been monitoring cases, says 70 senior doctors have been suspended in the last six years and 19 cases remain unresolved.

Tom McAllister, a consultant microbiologist at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, has been suspended on full pay since June 1989. He was later charged with fraud in connection with a charity he ran to raise money for medical equipment. But in October 1991 the case was adjourned.

The protesters, drawn largely from the Twyford Down Association and Friends of the Earth, have pledged to maintain a round-the-clock vigil at the site until the bulldozers arrive to start work on the project. That could happen at any time.

Roger Higman, transport campaigner for Friends of the Earth, said: "We are presently preventing the government from gaining access to the site." Plans had been drawn up to deal with the bulldozers, but the protest would be lawful at all stages.

A separate protest was held by Earth First!, an offshoot of a radical American environmental organisation, whose members are prepared to be arrested in pursuit of their cause. Six of the group's supporters were arrested during an earlier protest over preliminary works on the Down.

Transport department officials have contracted a private company to move some of the site's flora and fauna after English Nature refused to carry out the work. The protesters have denounced the exercise as a "sham".

Environmental groups have been lobbying for the final section of the M3 to be built in a tunnel under the Down instead of in a 400m wide cutting. Ministers have said that the extra £85 million cost and delay is unacceptable.

The European Commission accused the government in October of failing to carry out a full environmental assessment of the scheme, as required by a 1985 directive. But it has so far failed formally to accuse the government of violating European Community environmental law, or set in motion the legal machinery required to prevent the project from going ahead.

Leading article, page 15

Comics draw on thirst for violence

WHEN you walk into Alexandra Palace for what is billed as the biggest comic convention ever held in Britain, you expect the air to be thick with speech bubbles and everyone to be saying things like "Kewpie" and "Wham!" In fact they are more inventive than this. What they say is Zerk and Ska-Kroom! and Bathroom-Bathroom! and Raka-Thaam!

The innocence of the cartoon heroes' speech bubble has burst, Joe Joseph discovers

with constipation and all women wear Lycra catsuits, never curlers and slippers. Britain's biggest selling teenage magazine — they are called teenage to distinguish them from the *Beano* and *Dandy*, but readers range from 10 to 59 — is *2000 AD*. It sells 90,000 a week and its main character, Judge Dredd, proved so successful that he now has his own comic.

As David Bishop, one of the magazine's editors, told a group of salivating fans, the forthcoming series of Judge Dredd will have "a lot of mindless violence, gratuitous killing, a lot of death, lots of people getting run

and no further date set for a hearing on grounds of his health, said a spokeswoman for the Greater Glasgow Health Board. Dr McAllister, aged 55, has semi-paralytic disease of the spine and is confined to a wheelchair.

The doctor, who is paid over £50,000 a year, said the allegations of fraud followed a break-in at his office when papers were stolen. "I have never had the satisfaction of clearing my name," he said. He is appealing to the Secretary of State for Scotland to be allowed to return to work.

The British Medical Association said that health authorities tended to abuse the suspensions procedure. "If used properly it should be a short-term measure to allow the facts to be established and an inquiry to get under way," a spokesman said. "But health authorities are using it to delay all the other disciplinary procedures that have been agreed."

A case in which a consultant general surgeon, Philip Lyndon, was suspended from Dewsbury District Hospital last September was allegedly mishandled by Yorkshire regional health authority, according to the BMA. Concern about the workload in the surgical department led the health authority to appoint two external surgeons to conduct a review.

Subsequently, the authority asked Mr Lyndon and another surgeon to take sabbaticals for further training. But agreement could not be reached with Mr Lyndon, who has strong support from local GPs. Formal disciplinary proceedings were not initiated until last month.

Mr Lyndon has been an outspoken critic of the authority over cuts in bed numbers. But a health authority spokesman said it was "nonsense" to suggest a link with his suspension. The BMA said that if the "intermediate" procedure for less serious allegations had been used the case "would not have reached the stage it has".

In a further development, the General Medical Council and the National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts are considering seeking wider powers to suspend doctors whose performance is consistently below par.



Dr O'Connell: insists she wants job back

Solicitors boycott Legal Aid work

BY ALISON ROBERTS

SOLICITORS in Devon withdrew duty cover yesterday in a month-long protest against proposed reforms to the Legal Aid system. Their action is expected to disrupt magistrates' courts and hinder police procedure.

About 50 members of Devon and Exeter Law Society — three quarters of the criminal practitioners in Devon — are taking part. The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, wants to replace the existing payments of up to £56 an hour for Legal Aid work with a fixed fee system.

Andrew Pryce, a spokesman for the society, said: "Legal Aid has always been the Cinderella of the legal services and we are concerned that the number of solicitors prepared to do it will fall if they are not paid adequately."

What Lord Mackay is proposing is in effect a 30 per

cent cut in income. In view of the number of cases that seem to be coming almost weekly before the appeal court, we need solicitors to be involved in proceedings from the outset."

Mr Pryce said the action would force police to telephone around to find solicitors to represent suspects. If they failed, officers would have to charge suspects without interview or free them.

The Lord Chancellor told a meeting of 2,000 solicitors in London two weeks ago that he would not be intimidated by boycotts.

The solicitors said they would return to duty work if Lord Mackay referred the matter to a Royal Commission. His spokesman said there were no plans to do so because this would delay implementation of the reforms. The changes are intended to increase efficiency.



Judge Dredd: killing, drinking and vomiting over by a motorcycle, lots of drinking and vomiting, the sort of thing that appeals to our readers, especially motorcycle riders. The days when cartoon heroes helped children across the street, and saved the world as well, are gone. Judge Dredd lives

in Mega-City One, which is the East Coast of America in 2114. The population is 400 million and unemployment is 80-90 per cent, so a lot of them have time on their hands. To prevent anarchy, Mega-City One has been turned into a police state and Judge Dredd is judge, jury and executioner.

"It's Clint Eastwood and *Dirty Harry* taken to absurd lengths," Mr Bishop says, which is a bit of a shock to anyone who thought that Clint Eastwood had already taken *Dirty Harry* to absurd lengths. In what Mr Bishop describes as a satirical element, injected by the comic's 40-year-old-plus authors, the fashion for thinness is replaced in Mega-City One by a fashion for fumes and vain people go to "ugly clinics" to worsen their looks. Golly, Tom Wolfe never thought of that.

Culture in strips, L&T section, page 4



From left, Prunella Scales, Haydn Gwynne, Patricia Routledge and Lindsay Duncan, and below, Alan Bates and Alan Rickman.

Rivals star in lunch role

SCREEN stars came together yesterday at a nominees lunch for the twenty-third year of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) awards. Alan Bates has been nominated for best actor in a supporting role for the film *Hamlet*. Alan Rickman has two nominations: for best actor in a leading role (film) for *Truly, Madly, Deeply*, and for best actor in a supporting role for his

portrayal of the Sheriff of Nottingham in the film *Robin Hood, Prince of Thieves*. Prunella Scales has been nominated best actress for her television role in *A Question of Attribution*. Haydn Gwynne, of *Drop the Dead Donkey*, has been nominated for the best light entertainment performance.

Patricia Routledge, recently seen as novelist

Barbara Pym in *Miss Pym's Day Out*, has been nominated for the award for the best light entertainment performance (television) for *Keeping Up Appearances*. Lindsay Duncan, has been nominated for best actress (television) for *GBH*. The BAFTA production and performance awards will be made in London on March 22 by the Princess Royal and hosted by Michael Aspel.



Police seal off house

DETECTIVES hunting the person who abducted and murdered Adele James sealed off a house a few doors from her home in Dyfed yesterday. The house is owned by a married man who went missing soon after Mrs James, aged 25, was found strangled. Other residents in Military Road, Pembroke Dock, said that the man had not been seen since Friday, when the body of Mrs James was discovered on mud flats near Penryn Park holiday camp, a mile away.

Police believe that her killer broke in through a back window and made Mrs James leave her daughters Melissa, aged seven, and Shan, aged five, asleep in the house. She was found in her yellow VW Polo and taken to the shore where she was strangled.

Mrs James was a divorcee. Police interviewed her former husband and boy friend as part of "normal procedure". Detectives yesterday removed property from her neighbour's house and cordoned it off.

Police were called after Mrs James's daughters woke on Saturday to find that their mother was missing. Melissa walked in her nightclothes to a neighbour's house. Officers searched the area by helicopter and saw her car abandoned near the coastal path and the body lying near by. They are trying to establish whether she had been further assaulted.

Police said last night that they wanted to interview William O'Donnell, aged 36, a neighbour of the dead woman.

Charity marks four decades of caring

BY ALISON ROBERTS

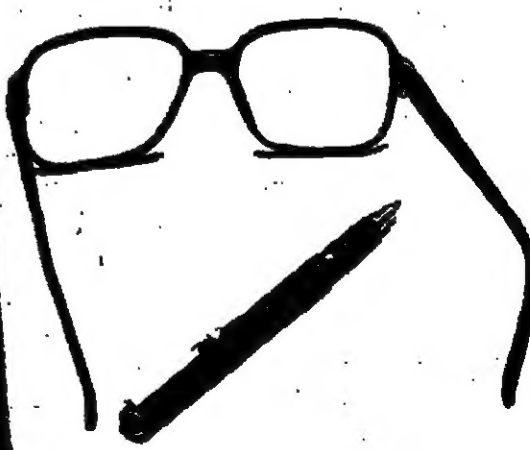
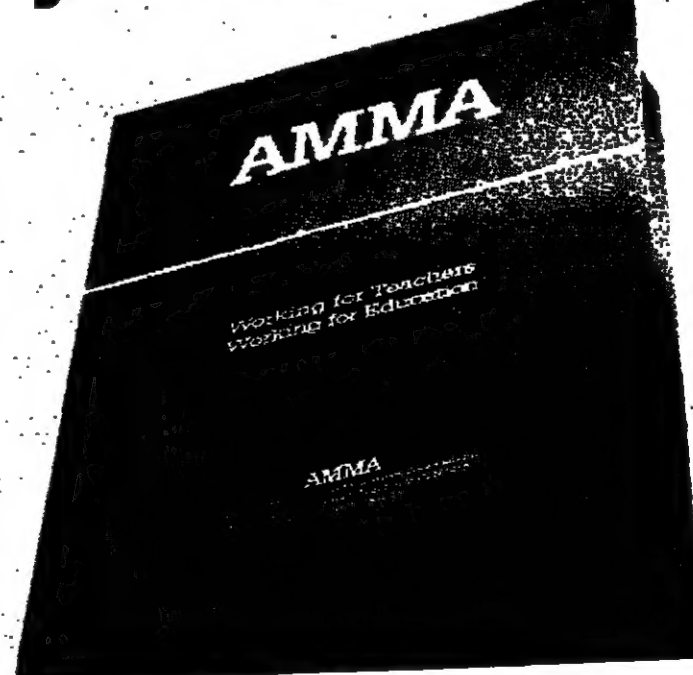
THE Spastics Society will celebrate its 40th birthday today with a large cake and a team of celebrities, followed by a month of fund raising. The launch of the campaign will be chaired by the Duke of Westminster and will link the society with companies and other organisations that are 40 this year. Events

are planned throughout the year, including a week of 1952 films at the National Film Theatre. The society hopes to raise £2 million towards 100 Spastics Society schools for parents, the first of which opened in Fitzroy Square, London, last week. The schools will assess spastic babies, using

the Hungarian Peto Institute method, and teach parents the best way to help children. The society is asking people to give up something for the 40 days of Lent and give it the money saved or gained from sponsorship. The Archbishop of Canterbury will launch the Lent campaign on Wednesday.

Times readers are invited to join in. The society, through a sponsor, offers a three-week holiday for two in Goa for the most original giving-up idea. The person raising most money will also win a holiday. Submit ideas and money to: The Spastics Society Forty at 40 office, 19-20 Conway Street, London W1P 6HL.

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Politics worry over charter document

Heds fail to give parents £2m leaflet

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

MILLIONS of copies of a government leaflet sent to schools in a £2 million campaign to publicise the parent's charter have failed to reach parents, a Times survey of schools suggests.

The campaign ran into trouble as soon as the leaflet was published last autumn. Head teachers and some councils objected to its distribution through schools, arguing that it was politically contentious. Much of the leaflet relates to measures yet to receive parliamentary support.

More than five million copies have been produced in eight languages, almost doubling the education department's publicity budget. Little more than a quarter of schools in a 1 per cent sample of the English state system had sent copies to parents by the weekend.

Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, said at a conference last week that distribution of the leaflet had gone well, and that most schools had provided parents with copies. The education department has employed market researchers to ensure that the leaflet is reaching its target, and has been told that two-thirds of state schools have been sent copies.

Yet almost 190 out of 250 schools told The Times that they had not distributed the

leaflet. The sample included at least one school in every education authority. Many had invited parents to collect copies and had found that only a few responded.

The 24-page glossy leaflet, with colour illustrations, distinguishes between measures that still require legislation, and those already expected of schools and councils. Its emphasis on controversial changes to school inspections and publication of examination results provoked opposition from many teachers and governors.

George Wislin, head of Westwood High School, in Leek, Staffordshire, said: "We have always tried to avoid things that appear to be politically partisan, especially in the run-up to a general election. My governors agreed that it would not be proper to distribute the leaflet, and that we might get requests from other political parties if we did."

The National Association of Head Teachers has advised members not to distribute the leaflet until the Schools Bill becomes law, and the Secondary Heads Association agreed to back any members taking similar action. John Sutton, the SHA general secretary, said: "Good secondary schools already do the sorts of things that are in the

parent's charter, and there is a certain resentment that it should be thought they did not happen until the government said they should."

In addition to the four million copies for schools, the department has sent 400,000 to libraries, 750,000 to post offices and 75,000 to people replying to advertisements.

Jack Straw, Labour education spokesman, said: "Parents can hardly not know about the charter after being bombarded with publicity about it, but they are clearly boycotting its message. Labour's lead on education has widened since its publication."

The government is not certain of getting the Schools Bill through Parliament intact before an election. Substantial amendments are to be debated in the Lords this week.

Letters, page 15
Education Times,
L&T section, page 7



Family may lose mansion

A FAMILY which has owned one of the country's finest timbered mansions for centuries may be forced to sell. Parts of the 16th century Grade I listed Pitchford Hall, left, in Shropshire are riddled with rot and beetle.

Caroline Colthurst, below, whose family has owned the site since 1473, has spent £900,000 on restoration, but cannot afford the next phase. The family is negotiating to transfer the home into public ownership.

A lime tree in the grounds, with the world's oldest tree house, is also Grade I listed.



Mortgage lenders 'too harsh'

By RACHEL KELLY, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

HOMES are being repossessed unnecessarily because many lenders fail to give enough help to borrowers who fall behind with mortgage payments, according to a National Consumer Council report.

Lenders often fail to contact customers in arrears until it is too late and then insist on unrealistic repayment schedules making repossessions more likely, the report, *Mortgage Arrears: Services to Borrowers in Debt*, says.

The report is based on a survey on the arrears services of 32 lenders and of 234 borrowers who went to advice centres about their arrears. One of the most disturbing aspects of the behaviour of lenders and courts was their emphasis that arrears must be paid off within 18 months to two years, when the money had been loaned over 20-25 years, the report says.

Lenders should immediately review their staff training and, if necessary, increase the number of staff trained in debt counselling skills, the report says.

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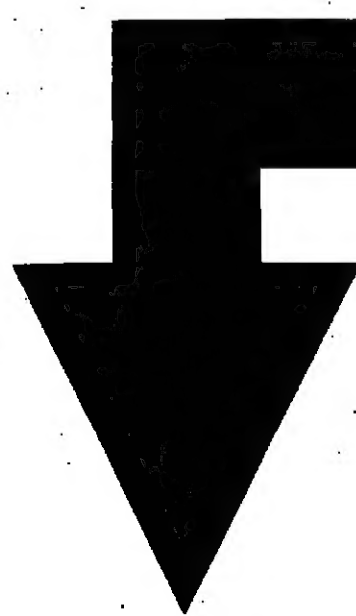
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Musicians offer new class aims

PROFESSIONAL musicians join the controversy over the teaching of music today by proposing their own curriculum for state schools (John O'Leary writes).

The national curriculum in music has been keenly contested since Kenneth Clarke, education secretary, sided with the National Curriculum Council, which recommended more emphasis on Western classics and less on composing and performance. Musicians have argued that the government's proposals would put pupils off music. They want Mr Clarke to restore the music curriculum working group's plan to divide the subject into composing, performing and listening, rather than having only two divisions.

Today's proposals by the Incorporated Society of Musicians are designed to produce a less prescriptive curriculum. The musicians say that they would achieve a better balance of Western classics and other forms of music and that the three separate attainment targets would be restored. □ Labour has said that the Further and Higher Education Bill, which reaches its report stage in the House of Commons tomorrow, will threaten the existence of 700 small sixth forms.



Snelling threatened to apply for injunction

Stratford school vote dropped

THE dispute at opted-out Stratford school, in east London, eased yesterday with an announcement that governors would not press a vote of no confidence in Ann Snelling, the head teacher that had been due for debate tomorrow (John O'Leary writes).

Debate was postponed last week because most governors considered the evidence inadequate. Mrs Snelling had threatened to seek an injunction today against tabling of the motion, saying that it broke disciplinary procedure.

The National Association of Head Teachers yesterday said an assurance had been given that there would be no vote. The school staff committee would be asked to discuss the incident under complaint.

Doctors back pedal on cycling

By NIGEL HAWKES

CYCLING is good for you, doctors will declare this week. After two years' work, a British Medical Association committee has concluded that it should be encouraged by the provision of more specialised cycle tracks.

This view contrasts strongly with medical opinion during the cycle boom a century ago. Then doctors warned of the dangers of cyclist's spine, cyclist's puerulum, cyclist's heart, even cyclist's sore throat.

The committee's report, to be published by Oxford University Press, coincides with Cyclex '92, a cycling exhibition which opens at Olympia on Thursday. Cycling is booming, say the organisers, with more than three and a half million regular cyclists in the United Kingdom, and numbers growing rapidly. There is no evidence that any are suffering from the ailments identified by the Victorians.

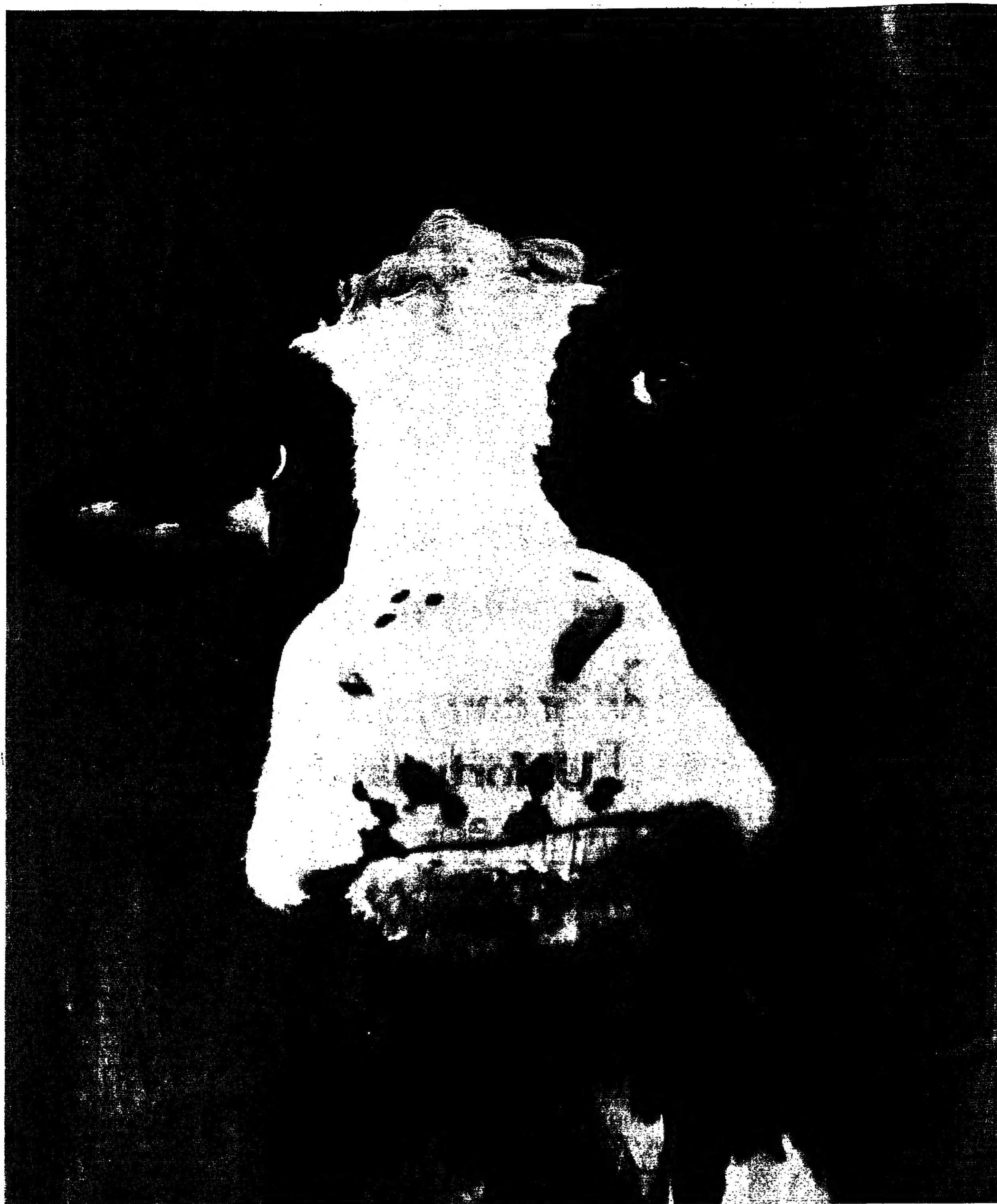
In 1898, the *British Medical Journal* said: "There must be few of us who have not seen the ill-effects of over-exertion on a bicycle. The commonest is palpitation and temporary dilatation..." Small wonder, it concluded, that several well-known French cyclists had been rejected as unfit

for military service. The doctors were even more concerned about the effect of cycling on women. Dr Herman wrote in 1895: "If the pedals are too far from the seat, the rider cannot make her feet follow the pedals without inclining the pelvis. Such side to side movement of the pelvis produces unnecessary strain on the muscles of the back and loins, and also friction... If the saddle is badly shaped, this may lead to bruising, even to excoriations, and short of this, in women of a certain temperament, to other effects of the sexual system which we need not particularise."

These fears were dug out by Sir Cyril Clarke, a former president of the Royal College of Physicians, who commented in the college's journal in 1988 that medicine today is more scientific than it was, but has lost none of its zeal.

One thing that does still alarm doctors is the risk of accidents. A copy of the BMA report is to be presented to Christopher Chope the roads minister tomorrow with the recommendation that more safety provision should be made for cyclists.

Real cyclists
L&T section, page 5



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THE ENERGY TO SUCCEED

Five states want to kill elephants

Africans challenge West on ivory trade

TWO opposing views on how to protect the world's endangered wildlife, especially in poor countries, will clash at a conference of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) in Japan today.

One, traditionally held by animal welfare campaigners in western countries, says that all life is sacred and wildlife should be protected at all times. The other, embodied in an attempt to lift a two-year ivory trade ban, says the spectacular wildlife that the West wants Africa to protect will be preserved only if Africans have an economic interest in doing so. It has to pay its way. That might mean tourism, but often it will mean killing.

The belief that killing some elephants may be necessary to save all elephants from extinction will provoke a fierce debate at the opening of the conference in Kyoto where five southern African countries — South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Malawi and Namibia — will try to overturn the ban.

This view is held by a growing number of professional conservationists in the West. But it is the five states which are bringing matters to a head by proposing that they restart trading in ivory from their own elephant herds. The main reason, they say, could be returned to conservation. They say that their elephant populations are stable, unlike elsewhere in Africa, and that by setting up a strictly controlled cartel, they can keep poached ivory from other countries out of the market.

Many environmentalists, and probably most of the 112 countries attending the conference, including Britain, disagree. They feel there are too many faults in the proposals and that the ivory ban, agreed at the last CITES meeting in Gland, Switzerland, in October 1989 and introduced three months later, has been the only check on the decline in African elephants at the hands of poachers from 1.3 million in 1979 to perhaps 600,000 a decade later.

They say that complete control of the ivory market is not possible and any reopening would be a signal to poachers across the continent to restart the slaughter. The ban seems to be working: the ivory price has fallen with the end of the

Third World needs have split the green lobby on the best way to protect wildlife, Michael McCarthy says

market, and poaching has declined.

CITES has appointed two panels of wildlife experts to examine the southern African countries' proposals. The first reported in November that South Africa's elephant population of just under 9,000 was not significantly threatened by poachers, and was managed at a stable level which controlled culling would not affect. It recommended a reopening of trade under strict conditions, to criticism from green groups, which pointed out that the report admitted South Africa would not be able to prevent a certain level of illegal ivory trade through its territory from other countries.

The second panel will be reporting in Kyoto today on the rest of the would-be traders, and is rumoured to be much less accommodating about the state of their elephant populations and their conservation capabilities.

The difficulty for those who wish to uphold the ban is that all the southern African states "entered reservations" when it was brought in, meaning that, although they have gone along with it voluntarily, they are not legally bound and are free to restart trading whenever they wish, if they can find buyers.

How can they be kept on board? One suggestion, put forward by Richard Leakey, head of the Kenyan Wildlife Service, and endorsed by the World Wide Fund for Nature, is that the five countries should be allowed to trade in elephant hides and meat, giving them some economic return on their animals, if they agree not to trade in ivory.

The British government seemed at first to favour this but suddenly opposed it two weeks ago — cynics say, with the election in mind — the day after a coalition of green-pressure groups accused ministers of wavering on the issue and "failing the elephant". Britain now firmly backs a ban on trade in all elephant products.

Yet there is no doubt, such is the strength of feeling

among the African countries that they know best how to manage their wildlife, that a deal will have to be done. Rhino-horn and leopard skins are also on the conference agenda. Both are commodities in which some southern African countries will propose trade should be restarted. The proposals will meet a similar, hostile response from much of the rest of the world.

Both African rhino species, the black and the white, are in even more desperate straits than the elephant, with populations down to several thousand animals; trade in rhino products has been banned for 15 years. Yet as South Africa and Zimbabwe hold most of the remaining animals, and claim they can manage the populations, both countries feel they should be allowed to restart the trade in horn. Zimbabwe says it simply needs the money and that, if it is to continue its rhino conservation effectively, it needs to double its wildlife department budget of \$10 million.

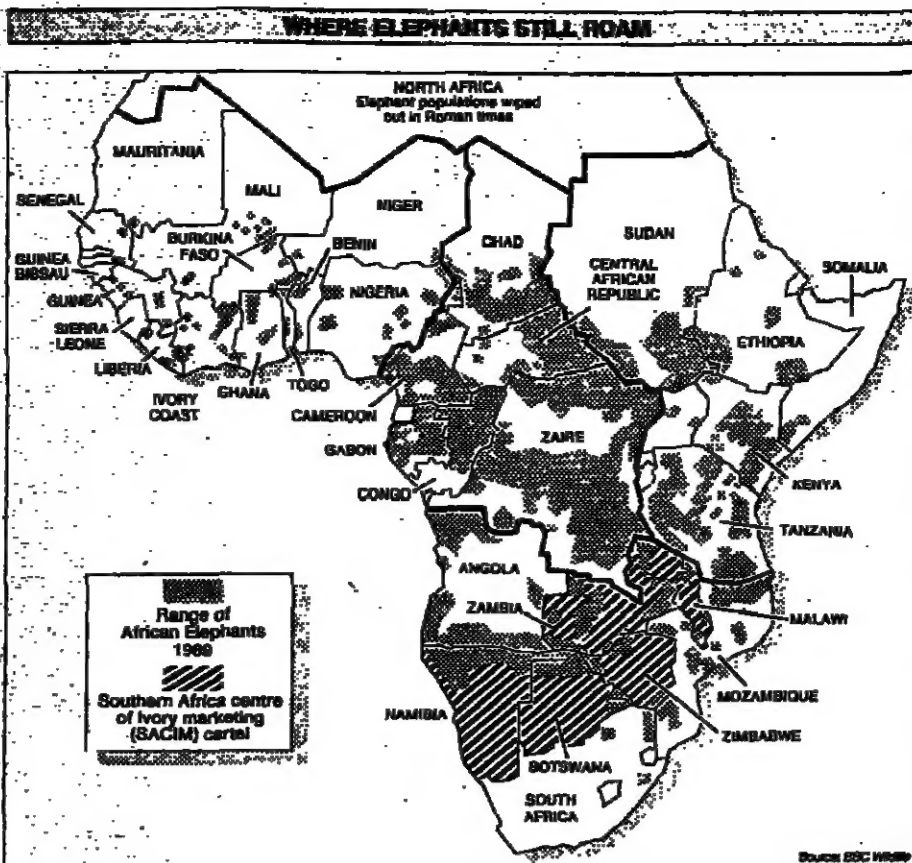
Both countries have large stocks of extremely valuable horn, from confiscations, dehorning operations to make the animals unattractive to poachers, and natural death. The horns are sitting in warehouses yet would fetch high prices — millions of dollars all

told — through sale to Taiwan and other parts of Asia for folk medicines and to some Arab countries for dagger handles.

The World Wide Fund for Nature says that, while Zimbabwe's desire to export horn is understandable, it must not

be allowed to happen because any reopening of the trade would be disastrous for rhinos everywhere. Leopards are the subject of a similar proposal. They are subject to a quota system.

Simon Lyster, page 14



Species in danger across continent

THE ivory trade ban agreed by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species in 1989 has been the only check on the sharp decline of the African elephant, because of poaching, since 1979.

West Africa (14 countries): elephant population 1979 estimated at 17,090. 1989: estimated 19,000, reduced to small pockets. Since the ivory ban, poaching has declined in many countries. Nine countries made 1991 estimates, some showing a slight increase, but overall there was a decrease of 18 to 42 per cent. CITES 1989: seven voted for the ban. Of the other seven, six were non-CITES. Nigeria did not attend. CITES 1992: no changes declared.

Central Africa (seven countries): elephant population 1979 estimated at 497,400. 1989: estimated at 277,000, though largely uncounted. Since the ban, poaching is said to have declined in most countries; 1991 figures show a large decrease in Zaïre giving a regional decline of 2 per cent. CITES 1989: three voted for the ban. CITES 1992: no changes declared.

East Africa (seven countries): elephant population 1979 estimated at 546,650. 1989:

estimated at 110,000. Since the ban, poaching has almost halted. 1991 figures from four countries indicate first signs of recovery in some herds (up 3,000 in Kenya), but, overall, estimates are down 13 per cent on 1989. CITES 1989: six voted for the ban. CITES 1992: Uganda has joined and intends to vote for Appendix I.

Southern Africa (eight countries): elephant population 1979, 282,200. 1989: 204,000. Since the ban, poaching reported to have increased in Zimbabwe, though with little impact on elephant population levels. Of the five countries with 1991 figures, the collective estimate ranges from down 5.5 per cent to up 7.3 per cent. CITES 1989: five voted against the ban. Malawi was absent. CITES 1992: all want to downlist their elephants to Appendix II.

Note: Elephant data supplied by Iain Douglas-Hamilton and the African Elephant and Rhino Specialist Group. The group stresses that 1991 figures are not available for all countries, and that, in some cases, declines or increases in estimates of elephant populations may be because of reassessments of data rather than real change.

The products from our factory are accepted by many major companies.

Unfortunately, our workers aren't.

At first glance, there is little to distinguish our factory from any other productive workshop.

There's the usual buzz of activity. The familiar drone of machinery and naturally, the odd wisecrack from the foreman walking the shop floor.

But look again more closely and you might notice something that's unique to our operation.

Every member of our workforce is blind or visually impaired.

If you find this fact hard to believe, that's precisely the reason we are taking this space.

At Action for Blind People, we are constantly striving to break down people's misconceptions of what it means to be blind. If that entails setting up an entire factory, then so be it.

Since 1857, Action for Blind People have run a factory which today is producing P.V.C. stationery for major companies like Barclays, Esso and British Rail.

It's real work that as well as offering a high quality product, gives blind people a sense of being a useful and active member of society.

Sadly, elsewhere, it is often the case that blind people aren't even considered when they apply for a job vacancy. Which can be a sorry waste of readily available talent.



Blindness in no way prevents a person from being articulate, intelligent or hard-working.

Many blind people are highly qualified or have gained valuable experience in previous jobs. In fact, in the vast majority of cases, blindness doesn't mean they have no useful sight at all.

Utilising their capabilities and abilities isn't a matter of showing pity. Just sound business sense.

To back up what we preach, we've put it into practice at our own factory. For instance, we've moved Moi Wong, a visually impaired employee, from the shop floor to an office job involving far

more responsibility. It's her task to deal directly with prospective clients and drum up business for our products.

Obviously, we needed to invest in specialised equipment to assist her. But aren't employees in any field given specific equipment, if their employer believes their talents warrant it?

Of course they are. And Moi, or any other blind person, should be no exception to this rule.

We would like to see more blind and visually impaired people in every line of employment offered similar chances to prove themselves.

To actively try and change the present situation, we have appointed two Employment Development Officers, both of whom are blind.

As a result, we now provide training for long term unemployed blind people, as well as advice and awareness training for employers.

And we work hand in glove with other organisations, in the disability field for example, to generate sponsored places in higher education for blind students.

Places specifically tailored to train them for the needs of major employers.


We've come a long way from our origins of 1857. Now we'd like to see other people's attitudes do the same.

As our name suggests, our foremost priority is to promote action in all areas where blind people are concerned. And we try to do so with the minimum of red tape and bureaucracy.

If you'd like further information, or have a blind friend or relative who is in need of any kind of help, don't hesitate to ring us on 071 732 8771 and ask for Rachel Tripp.

And please remember, we rely totally on your support to continue our work. So any donations you care to give will be gratefully received.

However, for blind and partially sighted people to continue working there's something we need more desperately than money.

Employers with vision. 

Action for Blind People

Tea break patient loses bed

A patient convalescing from salmonella poisoning left her bed at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital to get a cup of tea and when she returned found it had been given to another patient.

Belinda Moore, aged 18, who had been in an isolation ward for 16 days, was told to get home in her dressing gown because no other bed was available. Her visiting parents had been allowed to take her in a wheelchair to the hospital cafeteria. When they returned within half an hour, nurses had stripped the bed, saying that it was required for an emergency.

Miss Moore said: "I did not expect to be slung out while I was still feeling so awful." The hospital said that an investigation would be held if the Moores submitted a formal written complaint.

Short beaten

Nigel Short, the British grandmaster, completed a disastrous first week in the international chess tournament at Linares, Spain, by losing in the fifth round to Anatoly Karpov, the Russian former world champion.

Gary Kasparov, the world champion, has maintained his hold on the lead. He has three points out of four and a favourable adjourned position three pawns ahead against the Russian Boris Gelfand.

Flight of fancy

A man climbed a 700ft radio mast at British Telecom's Criggon station near Welshpool, Powys, before parachuting off the top. Police, alerted by staff, said that he drifted off into surrounding countryside and disappeared.

Bond winners

The winners in the weekly National Savings Premium Bond prize draw are: £100,000, bond number 124W 19888, winner lives in Wandsworth, southwest London (value of holding £3,000); £50,000, 17BF 781757, Hampshire (£1,031); £25,000, 35DT 412746, Oxfordshire (£9,475).



Hughes: hopes to halt cruelty

Democrats chase the feline vote

By OUR ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

AFTER the citizen's charter from the Tories and the patient's charter from Labour, now comes the vote-catching pet's charter. If they get the chance, Liberal Democrats have promised to pass legislation to protect the rights of Pussy and Fido.

Faddy Ashdown and his men plan to steal a march on the other parties tomorrow with the launch of the policy document *A Pet Is For Life*.

Simon Hughes, the party's environment spokesman, said: "There are 7.4 million pet dogs and 6.8 million pet cats in Britain. We want to end the growing scandals of strays, cruelty to domestic animals and the 'latch-key pets' who do not get the necessary care and attention."

The policy document includes compulsory dog registration and a ban on dog ownership in high-rise blocks of flats (current owners will be rehoused).

"Only adult cats and dogs would be available through pet shops," the document states. "Kittens and puppies would be available for adoption from a reputable animal home or acquired from the breeder."

Pet shops would be forbidden to sell animals to children under 16 and the import of exotic birds caught in the wild would be banned.

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Azerbaijanis plead for Western help

Karabakh survivors flee to mountains

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN AGDAM

AZERBAIJANI civilians, fleeing Nagorno-Karabakh, have been killed by Armenian forces, according to refugees arriving in the Azerbaijani regional centre of Agdam. The Soviet garrison in the region was yesterday preparing to pull out on orders from Moscow, passing through an infuriated and almost hysterical Azerbaijani population convinced that the Russians had a hand in the killings.

Of Khodjaly's population of around 5,000, when the Armenians attacked, fewer than a thousand have so far reached Agdam, local officials said. Survivors claimed that many have been taken prisoner. Of those still alive, they said, most will eventually succumb to the lack of food in the bitterly cold mountains. Their relatives begged the West to send helicopters to evacuate them.

The deputy mayor of Khodjaly, Geyush Gassanov,

said that Armenian troops surrounded his town after 7pm on Tuesday, accompanied by six or seven light tanks and armoured personnel carriers. "We thought that they would just bombard the village, as they had in the past, and then retreat, but they attacked, and our defence force couldn't do anything against their tanks."

Other survivors described how they had been fired on repeatedly on their way through the mountains to safety. "For two days, we crawled most of the way to avoid the gunfire," said Shukru Aslanov. He said his daughter had been killed in Khodjaly and his brother and son had died on the road. Ramiz Mahmudov, a farmer, said that his wife had been shot through both legs, apparently near the point where we saw the bodies on the ground, and had bled to death that night. Others said

that whenever they tried to leave the forest, the Armenians would fire and drive them back in again.

Reports of other atrocities abound, though they are hard to verify. We saw the body of a man whose eye appeared to have been gouged out, but this could have been the result of a bullet through the head.

Cold has been the other main killer. In an improvised hospital train at Agdam station, a boy of 13 from Khodjaly, Boris Hamidov, described how he had watched from the edge of the forest as his mother was taken prisoner. He spent three days in the mountains with nothing to eat, dressed in the ragged sweater and thin trousers in which he had fled.

Both his feet are badly frostbitten, and the doctor said that one may have to be amputated. Virtually all the other cases in the train were also suffering from either frostbite, exposure, bullet wounds, or all three.

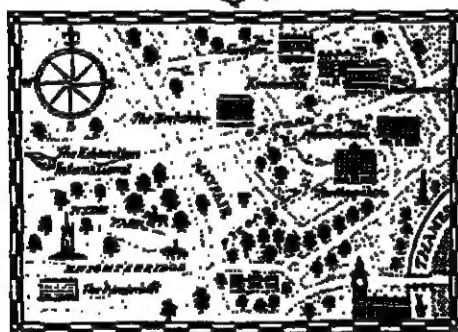
Every Azerbaijani from Khodjaly with whom I have spoken believes that Soviet troops were also involved in the attack and the massacres, though little concrete evidence of this has so far been provided. A group of Soviet deserters from the 366 Motorised Infantry Regiment, stationed in Nagorno-Karabakh, have said on Azerbaijani television that they had been ordered to fight for the Armenians, but when a group of Russian journalists interviewed them a week earlier, they said only that they were "afraid of being drawn into the conflict".

The Azerbaijani government has repeatedly accused the Soviet troops of involvement over the state media, possibly in order to find excuses for what has been a very serious military defeat which could threaten the survival of President Mubalibov.

Part of the reason for Armenian successes lie in better organisation, discipline and training. They have almost certainly bought most of their equipment from Soviet soldiers in return for dollars provided by the Armenian diaspora. Hardened veterans from the Armenian community in Lebanon may also have played a part.

On the Azerbaijani side, the disorganisation of their forces is very apparent in Agdam.

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War victims: an Azerbaijani mother cares for her son on a hospital train

Tragedy dwindles to farce at trial of secret police chief

BERLIN'S greatest free show is being played out in the unlikely surroundings of Moabit court, where Erich Mielke, formerly head of East Germany's secret police, is on trial. Tired of constant requests from spectators for directions, court officials have given him special billing on the board downstairs "Erich Mielke, Room 700. No questions answered here."

Herr Mielke is being tried not for his crimes in the East — as usual, these are proving difficult and inconclusive to investigate — but for the murder of two policemen in 1931 outside the headquarters of the Communist party. The defence claims that the case is out of date and that the testimony of witnesses gathered in 1934 was obtained using torture. The prosecution maintains that the case is still current, since the 41 years of East Germany's existence as a state are excluded from the

calculation of time after which a case lapses.

While the counsels bandy legal acronyms, the public and media are more interested in Herr Mielke's court performance. Slouched behind bullet-proof glass in the dock, he has engaged in a parody of antics apparently aimed at holding up the proceedings. Having initially appeared in court wearing a synthetic leather hat — a relic of East Germany's fashion industry — he was ordered to remove it by the judge, Theodor Seidel. He spent the duration of the proceedings moaning softly:

"They have stolen my hat. Give me back my property."

Yesterday, however, he was once again behaved. Herr Seidel merely sighed "I did order you to take it off, but I am not going to order the use of violence against an 84-year-old man," and attempted instead to elicit basic details from the defendant.

Herr Mielke growled: "I have done nothing. I want out of here. It's evil treachery. I raise objection against everything." He slid so far down in his seat that only his headgear remained visible and his lawyer had to check whether his client was still upright.

To the clear irritation of the judge, the defence is still insisting that Herr Mielke is senile and that the case should not be heard at all. Heinz Dahlheimer, a prosecution lawyer, dismissed the claim. The state of Herr Mielke's mental health is a matter on which not even the two psychologists called on to appraise him could agree.

The first declared his unfit for a court case; the second said that, while Herr Mielke appeared "mentally confused" when being questioned by psychologists, he showed no signs of disorientation while in conversation with his family and lawyers.

On the approach of a psychologist, Herr Mielke took to trying to hide under the bed. Defence and prosecution are at odds as to whether this indicates senility or the tactical skill expected of a cornered secret-police chief.

The proceedings are frequently interrupted by disturbances from the public gallery. One young woman was bundled out yesterday when she shouted that the use of evidence gathered under the National Socialist regime made this "a Nazi trial". Another was silenced after loudly responding to Herr Mielke's mumbled "I have done nothing" with: "I suffered under you. You ruined my life."

Ukraine nationalists aim for breakaway

FROM ROBERT SEELY IN KIEV

AFTER a weekend of infighting and insults, the leaders of Ukraine's nationalist movement, Rukh, yesterday patched up their quarrels over the movement's role in a post-Soviet world.

In a compromise communiqué signed yesterday and agreed by Rukh's three leaders, the group, the most powerful political force in the republic, declared that it will campaign for Ukraine's withdrawal from the Russian-dominated and newly founded Commonwealth of Independent States.

Russian nationalism and the "psychological pressure from Moscow", rather than economic collapse, were defined as the leading threats to Ukraine's nascent statehood.

"If we cannot develop power in Ukraine, our country will remain a vessel for everybody to pursue their own interests in," Ivan Drach, Rukh's co-chairman, said.

Other speakers at the three-day conference, the first since Ukraine's independence in December, spoke of plots being hatched by senior members of the KGB and former Communists who, according to one MP, are trying to undermine the republic militarily and block the introduction of a Ukrainian currency. President Kravchuk, who addressed the conference on Friday, spoke of the dangers of condemning Russian democrats only to see them replaced by xenophobic nationalists.

Champagne baptism for the glasnost glitterati

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

OYSTERS and champagne — the staples of the Russian aristocratic legend — abounded, a sprinkling of ball gowns and dinner jackets alongside the most micro of skirts, carnations for the women and a cloakroom overflowing with fur coats. The glitterati of all Moscow and beyond were there, including the newest of Russian celebrities, Mikhail and Raisa Gorbachev, plus bodyguards.

The occasion was the gala jubilee of *Nezavisimaya Gazeta*, the first serious independent newspaper to be founded in Moscow under glasnost and a fierce, but thoughtful, critic of the old regime before it fell. *Nezavisimaya*, which has thrived in the new world of press competition to be-

come the voice of the post-perestroika establishment, was celebrating the completion of its first year of publication, albeit about two

months late. As at any such gathering, there were records to be put straight, new alliances to be cemented, and a tone to be set. The

former president — a position without precedent in this country — Mr Gorbachev, and everyone else, is still trying to define what it means — set out to correct one of the great misunderstandings of his last year in power.

In a witty speech that suggested his new career should be in after-dinner speaking, not newspaper columns, Mikhail Sergeyevich commented on the state of Moscow's roads ("so expertly cleared of snow by the city council") — loud laughter from the audience.

defended his pluralistic credentials, and congratulated the newspaper's editor and his young staff on their achievement.

Before the champagne and oysters, awaited with

more curiosity than relish as possibly the first to be seen in Moscow since 1917, the guests were treated to a string of performances that illustrated the whole cultural confusion of the new Russian establishment, suspended as it is between the pompous parochialism of the Soviet age and emulation of the Western avant-garde, 1970-80.

Children dressed as cosmonauts praised the paper in ecstatic choruses to a stroboscopic backdrop of a spaceship suspended over the Moscow streets. Part of the Red Army band and choir sang an improvised song in praise of press freedom. Marshal Yevgeni Shaposhnikov, sensitively introduced as commander of the armed forces (unspect-

fied and clad in a smart double-breasted suit instead of his marshal's uniform, said how splendid it would be if all the army, from conscript to general, were reading *Nezavisimaya*.

Even Aleksandr Rutskoi, the Russian vice-president, whose commitment to democracy and pluralism has not been without ambiguity in recent weeks, swallowed hard and pledged his support for the independent press and undertook to publish his articles only in *Nezavisimaya*.

As for the oysters, consumer reaction was guarded. "I never thought they would be like that," said one of *Nezavisimaya's* more cosmopolitan young writers, poking the grey jelly warily from its shell.

Moscow turns into a giant bazaar

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

Long queues reappeared in Moscow at the weekend for bread, milk and petrol just days after the Russian government's announcement of the abolition of most remaining price controls.

No date has been set for the removal of subsidies, which will remain only on baby food, medicine and local government rents and repairs. Yegor Gaidar, the deputy prime minister, said that prices would be generally freed by the end of this month.

In the experience of Moscow consumers, however, the timing hardly matters. Once the government has made clear its intention, suppliers hold back goods and shop managers say they must raise prices to obtain anything.

The reappearance of long queues and renewed panic buying provided a sharp reminder of the situation before most subsidies were lifted on January 2. They came at the end of a month in which the consumer situation in Moscow has taken a sharp turn for the better, if in sometimes unexpected ways.

In that time, the city has become a giant bazaar. The price liberalisation has slowly helped to bring an unheard-of variety and quantity of goods, especially food, into the shops. Generally, queues have been remarkably shorter.

The plenitude results not only from the change in pricing policy, but also stems from the subsequent lifting of regulations about who may trade and where. The long-hidden black market, the clandestine ties which bound illicit traders to illicit customers, are coming into the open. These days most of the Moscow workforce seems to be crowded onto every spare piece of pavement. Everyone is buying and selling. The spaces in front of the French perfume store at the foot of Tverskaya — an aspiring Regent Street — teems with people trading perfume and cosmetics.

The city's two main children's shops appear from a distance to be under siege. You could simply pack no more people onto the pavement around them. Before the regulations were lifted, the police raided these "spontaneous markets" regularly. Now you can buy anything, from prams to Barbie dolls.

Recently, the children's market has diversified into adult clothing: jeans, quilted jackets and boots. Prices have remained stable.

There are bustling street markets also outside that largely empty paragon of state trading, the GUM department store beside Red Square.

Letters, page 15

Australian leaders side with Keating

PROMINENT Australians are flocking to join the fledgling republican movement in the wake of Paul Keating's controversial onslaught last week on constitutional ties with Britain (Robert Cockburn writes).

The prime minister caused the controversy by his treatment of the Queen during her visit to Australia, and his accusation that Britain had deserted Australia during the war. Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said on television yesterday that he hoped Mr Keating's outburst was an isolated incident and that rudeness would not become a habit in Australia. He added, though, that he did not believe Mr Keating owed the Queen an apology.

Malcolm Fraser, the former Liberal prime minister, Janet Holmes a Court, widow of the businessman, and prominent historians are among Mr Keating's supporters. Mr Fraser said that Mr Keating's remarks to the Queen were legitimate. Some of the reaction in Britain had been hysterical. He added: "The British must be prepared to accept one or two home truths."

Looters hunted

THIRAS: Albanian police, outnumbered and outgunned, pursued looters after a week of plunder and violence that left at least four dead in the shortage-stricken country. Elections are due in three weeks. (Reuters)

Moscow funds

WASHINGTON: Moscow funded America's Communist party with millions of dollars until 1990, the *Washington Post* said. It said Soviet documents showed that communists parties in other countries also received support. (AFP)

Sex for sale

MOSCOW: Russia's first sex shop has opened its doors in Moscow, offering German, Taiwanese and Hong Kong sex aids from condoms to inflatable dolls, and counselling to Muscovites to improve their sex lives. (Reuters)

Polling starts

YASOUDE: Voting in Cameroon's first multiparty elections since 1964 has begun; a boycott was widely observed in English-speaking areas because of fears that the poll will be unfair, but there was no violence. (Reuters)

Punjab battle

DELHI: At least 18 people, including the wife of a Sikh militant leader, were shot dead in gun battles between police and separatists in Punjab at the weekend. (Reuters)

Reporter held

LOS ANGELES: A number of journalists, including William Cash, a Los Angeles correspondent of *The Times*, were arrested at Disneyland in Anaheim, California, last week as they tried to cover Elizabeth Taylor's 60th birthday party. He will plead not guilty to a trespass charge.

Third World troops live it up in Crimea

BY ROBERT SEELY

WHILE commonwealth officers and troops enjoy a Russian winter in squalid conditions, their Third World comrades are receiving military training in the former Soviet Union's republics.

At Simferopol military training school in Crimea — Mikhail Gorbachev's prison for three days during the Au-

gust coup — officers from former Soviet client states in Africa, the Middle East and Latin America are living in comparative luxury.

Former Soviet troops survive on meagre rations of basic foods, but trainee officers from Nicaragua, Yemen and Mozambique have their national dishes specially prepared for them and sleep in their own private rooms. The camp's commander, Major-General Nikolai Tsvetukov, admitted that, among others, officers from Afghanistan, Congo, Guinea-Bissau and Madagascar were being trained.

Sources in Crimea say that the client governments pay £57 a day for courses which last up to four years.

Antiquated teaching rooms bristle with colour-coded models, war games boards, and instructions on how to bridge bridges and tunnels. "Give me one man and three mines and the Channel tunnel goes phuff," joked General Tsvetukov, a jovial Ukrainian.

Money from the courses on offer at Simferopol probably went to the Central Committee (of the Communist party), General Tsvetukov said.

The Third World students are happy. "This is a very important course for me to get on," Abdul Falah, a Yemeni cadet aged 24, said. He will leave this summer for an elite job in his army.

Muslims and Croats vote for Bosnia independence

FROM TIM JUDAH IN SARAJEVO

HARIS Siljadic, the foreign minister of Bosnia-Herzegovina, said yesterday that he "expected automatic recognition" as figures from the republic's weekend independence referendum indicated an overwhelming majority of Muslims and Croats voting in favour.

But Montenegrins, voting yesterday in their own referendum, looked likely to opt for cementing ties with Serbia and for building a "new Yugoslavia", of shape and frontiers as yet unknown.

Despite two reported shooting incidents, three deaths in an inter-Serb shootout, and a number of barricades being thrown up, the Bosnian poll passed off peacefully. By midday just over half the electorate had voted and unofficial figures indicated that President Izetbegovic's target of a 60 per cent turnout would be met. The figure confirmed

that Muslims and Croats, who together make up about two-thirds of the republic's population, had turned out in strength. Few would have bothered to vote if they were against independence.

However, they also confirmed predictions that the Serbs, one-third of the population, were heading the call of their leaders to boycott the poll. Last year Serbs held their own referendum in which they voted to stay within Yugoslavia.

But the Serbs are divided on their future. Some are in favour of forming "ethnic cantons" within the existing borders of Bosnia, while others favour seceding and joining a "new Yugoslavia" with as much Bosnian territory as they can get away with. In the Serb-dominated town of Pale, Serbian men took in the sun over the weekend and argued whether Yugoslavia still existed.

Croats are equally divided between those who live in ethnically compact western Herzegovina, who would like to join Croatia, and those who feel that independence is the only solution to prevent being left in a Serb-dominated rump Yugoslavia. However, voting patterns showed far higher numbers for independence than had been expected, even in fiercely Croatian nationalist towns such as Grude and Livno.

In the Croatian-dominated town of Kresovo, where the only flag flying is the Croatian one, a steady stream of voters confirmed that they were voting for independence as the least bad option. "The Yugoslavia we knew can't come back. We'd like it to but it's impossible and we don't want to live in a Serb-run 'chopped Yugoslavia'. Independence is better than that," said Zdenka, a Croat voting official.

"I'm a Bosnian, Bosnia is ours and we're not giving it away to anyone," said a Franciscan friar, Brother Stjepan, aged 74, who was among the first to vote in Kresovo.

Muslims, who regard their religion above all as the definition of their national identity, are concerned that Croatia and Serbia will simply carve their republic up between them if they do not seek international recognition. In Serb-run Pale, Muslims were forced to hold the poll in shops and private houses, and they complained of harassment from the local authorities.

In the overwhelmingly Muslim village of Topole, however, a stream of relaxed voters confidently voted for independence. Across the road a huge new mosque is under construction.

When Croatia and Slovenia were recognised last January, the European Community told the Bosnians that they should hold a referendum on the question first. Now that this has been done, and predictably only Muslims and Croats have supported independence, the EC will be faced with the dilemma of whether to recognise and risk triggering the much feared Bosnian civil war or simply playing for time.

The latter option looks the most likely and the EC may decide to delay recognition until there is a conclusion to talks on the republic's future that is now sponsoring.



Calif love: Louis Mermaz, French agriculture minister, making the acquaintance of an exhibit at the international agriculture fair in Paris

Greens find fruitful place on French political menu

FROM PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

AS France's ecologists prepare to contest seats throughout the country at this month's regional elections, the Green machine is gathering impressive momentum. While most media attention focuses on the progress of the ultra-right-wing National Front, the *écologistes* appear to be picking up support almost as successfully as Jean-Marie Le Pen's party, above all in the more rural constituencies.

The latest surveys suggest that ecological candidates could attract between 15 and 17 per cent of the vote — a great leap from the 2 per cent they scored in the regional elections six years ago and a handsome advance on their 10.6 per cent backing at the last general election. A poll in *Libération* concluded that the French are now overwhelmingly sympathetic to the green cause.

The poll made it clear that the chief attraction of the ecological movement for today's voters is the commitment to improving the protection of their countryside and the creatures living in it. But this upsurge of concern for the green cause is unlikely to translate into maximum electoral advantage in the regions, even though they will be decided on a system of proportional representation. The familiar weakness of the French political fringe — ideological nitpicking and a compulsive urge to form breakaway movements — has led to two mutually hostile factions competing for the ecological vote.

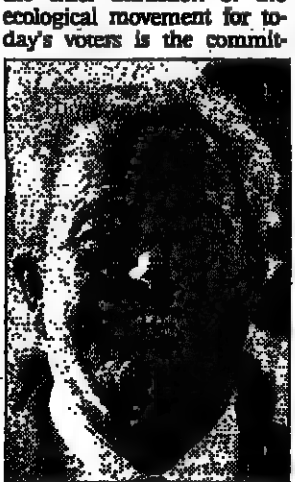
In one corner is *Génération Ecologie*, founded in 1981 by Brice Lalonde, who currently serves as the Socialist government's environment minister but does not belong to the party. In his late forties, M Lalonde is a somewhat eccentric figure with a considerable talent for self-promotion and, insiders say, a ferocious ambition for political power.

In bustling opposition are the activists of the older-established *Verts*, led by Antoine Waechter, who clocked up 3.78 per cent in the presidential contest of 1988; he shares with the former president Valéry Giscard d'Estaing a passion for playing the accordion, but lacks serious political experience. Waechter loyalists accuse M Lalonde of selling out to the Socialists to further his own career. Lalonde supporters dismiss the *Verts* as naive idealists. *Libération's* survey concluded that most green sympathisers put M Lalonde well ahead of his rival on grounds of competence and effectiveness, though they were marked equal when it came to "ecological

purty".

The National Front's relentless electoral assault on the south of France was boosted further last week by the publication of a poll that put support for M Le Pen's party at its highest ever. It has the backing of 27 per cent of voters in the Alpes-Provence-Côte d'Azur region.

European farming is being kept at its present size with the help of £20 billion of public money every year. But reforms, such as those being tried by the European Commission to target help more effectively towards poor farmers, have been ineffectual. The stalemate has preserved a system of subsidy so attractive that countries joining the



Le Pen: boosted by poll in the south

Portugal farmers have sweet tooth

George Brock finds a pioneer farmer cultivating a field of sugar beet in the unlikely setting of Vidigueira, in the beautiful Alentejo region of Portugal

On the dry hillsides of the beautiful Alentejo region, Hans Kristian Jorgensen grows one of the most bizarre experiments ever prompted by Europe's common agricultural policy: a field of Portuguese sugar beet.

Sugar beet sprouts everywhere in the European Community except in Portugal. But in the parched Alentejo, only a handful of pioneers like Mr Jorgensen, a former Danish engineer, are trying their hand at the crop. The soil is suitable but the cost of frequent irrigation is high. To add to the expense, the sugar beet is freighted to Spain for processing, since there is no factory in Portugal.

The EC already subsidises overproduction of sugar. Officials and businessmen in Brussels have to decide whether further to swell the surplus. The EC sugar system offers attractive incentives to do so, and its regional development aid could finance the building of a factory.

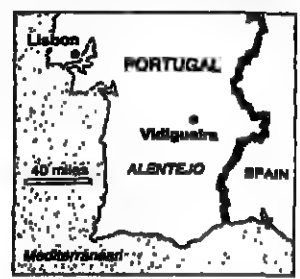
But does the Portuguese ministry of agriculture heed the warning of the EC's financial watchdogs that attempts to encourage the infant Portuguese sugar industry are plainly "lacking in realism"? While bureaucrats weigh the distorted economics of sugar, EC trade and agriculture ministers gather in Brussels today to discuss the Green talks which are paralysed by disputes over Europe's farm subsidies.

Mr Jorgensen is trapped in a political and economic muddle which the EC invented over 20 years ago and which now threatens a Transatlantic trade war if no Gatt deal is reached to cut subsidies. Neither the EC bureaucrats, nor its member governments can decide what to do about the surplus of foods.

European farming is being kept at its present size with the help of £20 billion of public money every year. But reforms, such as those being tried by the European Commission to target help more effectively towards poor farmers, have been ineffectual. The stalemate has preserved a system of subsidy so attractive that countries joining the

EC will adapt their rural life in order to enjoy the fruits of the subsidy system.

Portugal's farms are the least efficient in Europe: the Alentejo is a hilly landscape of small plots, donkey carts and rare irrigation equipment. Ever since joining the EC in 1986, Lisbon has scrambled to take its farmers out of uncompetitive crops and nudge them towards new ventures like sugar. It negotiated — in the face of opposition from other producer states — a right to produce 60,000



tonnes of sugar a year at protected prices. For Lisbon, the game is to promote commodities where the guaranteed prices will be kept high by the most powerful farm lobbies in the EC.

The EC's financial watchdogs condemned the management of the sugar market last year. A system of national production quotas and guaranteed prices is supplying 50 per cent more sugar than is consumed in Europe. The auditors bleakly concluded that the system had "failed". In private, many EC officials and diplomats simply describe the EC sugar system as a scandal.

None of this has deterred anyone in Portugal. A beet processing plant would cost £80 million. The EC will be asked to put up the bulk of the money. Besides the capital cost, there may have to be financial help while the infant industry gets going.

For Lisbon, the point is aid, not trade. "There will be a market for the sugar," Delim Costa, a ministerial adviser, said. "But that is not necessary."

"If we decide to go ahead, the real reason would be to convert our agriculture and develop the region."

Italian smuggler gangs get job offer

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

ITALIAN cigarette smugglers are to be offered jobs and the state will buy their motor launches if they surrender under the terms of an amnesty to be announced on television today.

Observers were scornful yesterday of the proposal by Rino Formica, the finance minister, that is to be aired tonight on the state-run television RAI. A transcript of Signor Formica's remarks, made in a pre-recorded interview, was released in advance yesterday.

"With sincerity," the minister in charge of the battle against smuggling tells an interviewer, "I want to make a proposal to the smugglers of contraband. If they consent to us their means of transport, we will buy them, providing at the same time for their absorption into the world of work."

Signor Formica said that up to 25,000 "contrabandiers" working in the generations-old tobacco smuggling racket run by the Mafia in Naples and Sicily could take up the offer. He anticipated criticism of his suggestion by pointing out that Italy had given jobs to many Albanian refugees who arrived last year. "If Italy has absorbed 20,000 Albanians, she must be able to make 25,000 contraband smugglers work. Give us your means of transport and we will commit ourselves for you."

The minister was responding to a letter sent to the press the other day that was purportedly written by a group of smugglers from the crime-ridden district of San Giovanni a Teduccio in Naples. "Dear Minister," it read, "If you cut us out of the cigarette market we will steal. The letter denied reports that the smugglers' sleek blue launches that ply the Neapolitan coast are often also used to carry arms and drugs."

Signor Formica responds in the interview: "If it is true that you do this work through necessity and you are sincere when you say that you do not have links with the trafficking of weapons and narcotics, then pass on to our side."

Germany divided on drugs

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

THE German government is fighting off opposition plans to legalise the use and possession of hard and soft drugs.

The Social Democrats say that this is the best way to tackle the problem, but in a statement this weekend, Rudolf Scharping, the interior minister, described the idea as "frivolous and dangerous". Playing down the dangers of drug taking "undermines the credibility of our prevention measures. Anyone who calls for this is irresponsible."

The Social Democratic party insists, however, that the time has come to think again and that the party will change the law if it forms the next government. It hopes that the federal constitutional court will back a request from the Lübeck appeal court last week to legalise the use of soft drugs on the grounds that they are less dangerous than alcohol and nicotine.

Wolfgang Neschow, the Lübeck judge, asked for the ruling because he said alcohol killed 40,000 a year in Germany and was behind much crime, while there was no evidence that hashish killed anyone or made people commit crime. He said that "intoxication, like eating drinking and sex," was increasingly one of humanity's fundamental needs in order "to break out of the clutches" of today's fast-moving society.

The Social Democrats want to go much further and say they want to make cocaine and other hard drugs available on prescription to destroy the illegal market and to control and treat addicts. The party argues that the drug barons would lose their huge incomes if addicts could obtain supplies legally. Prices would be driven down and addicts would not need to turn to crime and prostitution to fund their addiction. Third World farmers would then find it unprofitable to produce the drugs. It would also become easier to control the spread of Aids.

When Croatia and Slovenia were recognised last January, the European Community told the Bosnians that they should hold a referendum on the question first. Now that this has been done, and predictably only Muslims and Croats have supported independence, the EC will be faced with the dilemma of whether to recognise and risk triggering the much feared Bosnian civil war or simply playing for time.

The latter option looks the most likely and the EC may decide to delay recognition until there is a conclusion to talks on the republic's future that is now sponsoring.

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Warlike anthem strikes sour note

BY PHILIP JACOBSON

MORE than 200 alternative versions of La Marseillaise have been sent to a French priest who believes that some words of the rousing national anthem are too bloodthirsty for our times.

Encouraged by a recent opinion poll suggesting 40 per cent of the French also find certain couplets unacceptably warlike, Father Jean Poulard hopes to replace them before the bicentenary of the adoption of La Marseillaise in three years.

Although this is by no means the first attempt to water down the fiery verses of Rouget de Lisle, a hero of the revolution army, Fr Poulard has enlisted notable support for his cause. Among those uncomfortable with the anthem's exhortations to "swamp our fields in impure blood," "raise the bloody standard" and vari-

ously smite the "pitiless tigers" oppressing the French people are Danielle Mitterrand, wife of the president; Michel Platini, the unworried king of French football; and the revered champion of today's poor, Abbé Pierre.

In the foreword to a book by Fr Toulat — *Towards a Marseillaise of Brotherhood* — M Pierre wonders aloud what France's partners in Europe make now of all the ferocious references to crushing the armies their ancestors sent to defeat the revolution. Other doubters have cited the contrast between the most belligerent lines in the anthem as sung, with memorable purity, by a young girl at the opening of last month's Winter Olympics, and the objective of uniting nations through sport, symbolised by her release of a single white dove.

Yet it goes without saying that any proposal to tamper with the anthem appals many, probably most, of the French and is guaranteed to encounter bitter opposition. It is written not only into their constitution (article 2, line 3) but also their patriotic lineage: in 1878, an attempt to replace La Marseillaise with something called *Vive La France* was hastily abandoned after a few couplets had been tried out on a

deeply unresponsive gathering in the Tuilleries.

Maurice Duverger, a noted French constitutionalist, argues that any change to the mission and role of modern France, then ratified by parliament or through a national referendum, "Replacing the Marseillaise would be like changing the colours of the flag," he lamented in *Journal du Dimanche*.

Roger de Lisle originally composed seven couplets to accompany the tumultuous refrain — "Aux armes, citoyens" — but conceded in later life that his anthem would not suffer from being trimmed of "my excesses of verbiage". A century later, Marshal Pétain, who knew the realities of modern warfare, was his own favourite: the fourth is the most beautiful, he replied: "Nobody gets their throat cut there."

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Hurd gives Saddam ultimatum on Scuds

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

Mr Hurd said that 62 Scud ballistic missiles, 18 launching pads and 11,000 canisters for chemical weapons had been destroyed by the inspectors. A further 300 unstable rockets were being dealt with, he said. However, intelligence reports show that Saddam is beginning to build



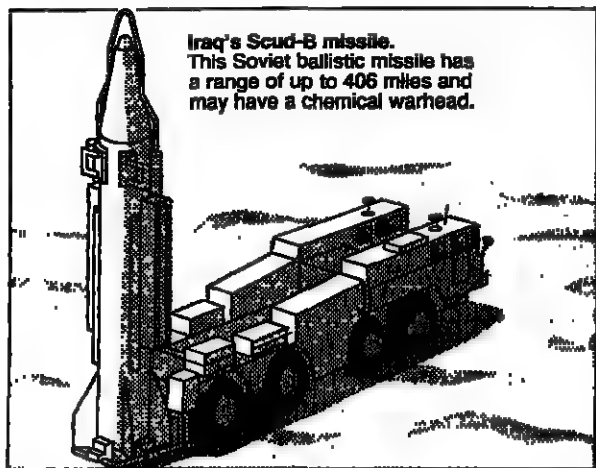
Iraq's Scum
This Soviet
a range of
may have

B missile.
Ballistic missile has
up to 406 miles and
chemical warhead

Tools for missiles survive

BY MICHAEL EVANS

Missiles are of aluminium alloy, with thin steel components from nose to tail to strengthen the sections. The fixed launching systems consist of steel frames about 5ft by 6ft. Mobile versions are fixed to the chassis of an articulated vehicle.



Mudslide disaster: rescuers lower an injured Arab onto a stretcher after an east Jerusalem cafe collapsed in a mudslide at the weekend, killing at least 24 and injuring many more. Israeli policemen and Arabs, wor-

king together, called off their search for survivors after pulling 24 bodies from under tons of rock and mud (Richard Beeston writes from Jerusalem). The disaster occurred near the Herod's Gate entrance of the Old

City when the wall of an ancient cemetery collapsed under accumulated rain and melting snow, sending earth, rocks, tombstones and skeletons crashing down on the roof of the cafe below.

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Fahd eases grip on power

**FROM YOUSSEF AZMEH
IN DUBAI.**

The new rules of succession stipulate that the sons and grandsons of the founder of Saudi Arabia, the late King Abdel-Aziz al-Saud, who was King Fahd's father, should be consulted, effectively setting up an electoral college of about 500 princes. (Reuters)

Top Likud posts go to hardliners

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

- Although Mr Netanyahu is a well-known figure abroad after his regular television appearances during the Gulf war, and more recently during the peace talks, it was only yesterday that he came of age within his own political party and secured himself a cabinet position if Likud forms the next government after the elections on June 23. Similar

The challenge from the new generation in the party will certainly pose a serious threat to the long-term political prospects of Mr Levy, whose support base among fellow Moroccan Jews appears to be steadily eroding; Mr Arens, who still maintains a commanding position in the party thanks to Mr Shamir's patronage but who appears to lack essential leadership qualities; and Mr Sharon, the former general who has the correct headline credentials but has certainly lost his youthful appeal.

Russia puts pressure on Libya

BY MICHAEL EVANS

As Russia added to the diplomatic pressure on Libya, the country's Jana news agency confirmed that Ahmad al-Tajer al-Zawi, the judge in Tripoli who is investigating the allegations that Libya was involved in the Lockerbie bombing, has asked to be removed from the case.

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 (P E P S) L I M I T E D[illegible]

Wild Bill and saintly Paul clash in Colorado

WITH the race for the Democratic presidential nomination entering its most critical eight-day period tomorrow, the two frontrunners traded insults in a five-minute confrontation during a televised debate here at the weekend.

In the ugliest exchange of the race so far, Paul Tsongas, the former Massachusetts senator, three times called Bill Clinton, the governor of Arkansas, a liar for suggesting he wanted to build "hundreds" of nuclear power plants. Mr Clinton, long irritated by Mr Tsongas's claim to the moral high ground, sarcastically retorted: "No one can argue with



Clinton: accused of lying by Tsongas

With the Democratic race still open, Bill Clinton and Paul Tsongas have been firing off insults at each other. Martin Fletcher writes from Denver

you, Paul, you're always perfect." Amid gasps from the audience, Mr Tsongas shot back at an opponent dogged by allegations of adultery and draft evasion: "I am not perfect - but I am honest."

Mr Tsongas rebuked Mr Clinton for attacking him with "sneaky" advertisements. Mr Clinton claimed Mr Tsongas had cast the first stone with an advertisement accusing him of advocating tax cuts for the middle classes that would increase the huge federal deficit. Mr Tsongas insisted he had run that commercial "because you have been on my back for a long time" and he wanted to show he could counter-punch.

Mr Tsongas demanded that all candidates forswear negative campaigning. "Put your hand up, Bill, put your hand up," taunted the man sometimes derided by opponents as "Saint Paul".

The clash was the climax of a week in which Senator Bob Kerrey, a Vietnam war

hero, began openly accusing Mr Clinton of draft evasion, "attack ads" became the norm, and Ron Brown, the Democratic party chairman, intervened to beg the candidates to attack President Bush and not each other.

The Democratic race is extraordinarily open. Some suspect the confrontation was engineered by Mr Clinton to make the unflappable Mr Tsongas lose his temper and to exploit Colorado's anti-nuclear sentiment.

The stakes are high. The two men enter a key set of primaries tomorrow knowing Mr Tsongas could possibly scoop Colorado, Maryland and Washington state while Mr Clinton takes only Georgia in his native South. Without a win in the four contests to date, Mr Clinton, not Mr Tsongas, would suddenly appear the regional candidate. Though Mr Clinton remains confident of sweeping the South on "Super Tuesday" one week later, his ability to beat Mr

Bush in November would again be questioned.

Polls show Mr Tsongas a few points ahead of Mr Clinton in Colorado, but Jerry Brown, the former governor of California, is rising fast. A Tsongas victory here would be remarkable. Before his New Hampshire win, he stood at 4 per cent.

Until last week his campaign was run single-handedly by his cousin, Theodore, from her kitchen and he had not visited Colorado since September.

At first sight the cerebral New Englander should have little appeal in this rugged mountain state, but his sober economic message resonates with the young, well-educated inhabitants of cities like Denver, Pueblo and Colorado Springs.

These people were badly hurt by the economic shenanigans of the 1980s. A boom built on oil crashed with the collapse in oil prices. Denver was also home to the Silverado Savings and Loans company which, with help from President Bush's son, Neil, poured millions of dollars into highly speculative property ventures and then went spectacularly bust.

Diary, page 14



High in the saddle: Democratic hopeful Bob Kerrey taking the Colorado campaign trail

Aquino gives advice to cheating husbands

President Corason Aquino of the Philippines, a devout Roman Catholic, has called on men who cheat on their wives to mend their ways. "Husbands should be saints," she said on television.

Stuntman Evel Knievel's son, Robbie, aged 29, attempted a world record 180 ft motorcycle jump over 25 pick-up trucks, but fell short and bounced off one of the vehicles. He was treated in hospital for bruises.

Shabba Rankin, who won a Grammy for his reggae album *As Raw as Ever*, has been ordered to appear in a Kingston court tomorrow to face a charge of assaulting a Jamaican fisherman.

Frank Sinatra and Shirley Maclaine are expected to launch a spring concert tour late next month, starting at Evansville, Indiana.

The Joffrey Ballet and pop star Prince will collaborate on a full-length ballet programme titled *Billboards*, which should have its premiere at the University of Iowa next January. The bal-

let, in four separate sections, will include a piece based on Prince's song *Thunder*.

Aircraft have been banned from flying near Charles Haughey's home in Inisvickillane, off the coast of Co Kerry, for security reasons. No such order was made during his time as Irish prime minister.

Sonia Ruseler, below, and Nicholas Owen are to present ITN's revamped lunchtime news programme. John Suchet will present the early evening bulletin. Ruseler was previously ITN's Tokyo correspondent. Owen has deputised for Suchet in the past and introduces Channel 4's parliamentary coverage.



Parties of apartheid unite

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa's right-wing groups have for the first time managed to paper over their differences to form an alliance to campaign for a "No" vote in the all-white referendum on March 17 against President de Klerk's constitutional reform.

But even as the leaders of the Conservative party, the Herstigte Nasionale party and the Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB) said at the weekend that their organisations would be campaigning jointly at grassroots level, there was speculation that the CP could split if the "No" vote is not significant.

Generally the CP has been prepared to fight to maintain apartheid within the parliamentary system, although some hardline members have aligned themselves with the neo-fascist AWB, whose appeal is to brute force. The HNP, the smallest group, never had more than two parliamentary seats and now has none. It believes apartheid is enshrined in the Bible.

Crime sweeps: More than 13,000 people were arrested in a widespread sweep against criminals in South Africa carried out by 20,000 police, troops and reservists.

L&T section, page 4

Quebec offered powers

FROM REUTER IN OTTAWA

CANADA'S three main political parties have agreed on constitutional reform proposals that would shift important powers to French-speaking Quebec to avoid the country breaking apart.

The process started inauspiciously at the weekend, however, as a report by a parliamentary committee on national unity was delayed for a second day. Jean Lapierre, a Bloc Québécois MP, alleged that the committee had signed blank sheets of paper to meet its deadline on Friday night and that the parties were still negotiating behind the scenes. "The final report does not exist yet," he said.

The proposals, which would introduce sweeping changes in the way Canada is governed, were to have been made public yesterday. Committee members said that the report calls for constitutional recognition of Quebec as a distinct society, with a unique culture and a different code of civil law.

The planned reforms include the transfer of 15 powers to Quebec, including jurisdiction over culture, regional development, immigration, tourism, housing, fisheries, energy and labour training.

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Dhaka seeks aid to shelter fugitives

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DHAKA

BAKANGADESH authorities say that the number of Muslim refugees crossing the frontier to escape Burmese persecution has accelerated to 10,000 a week and could reach 200,000 by the end of April. They have issued an international appeal for cash aid to build shelters.

Reaz Rahman, the foreign secretary, said yesterday that the number of Burmese troops along the border had reached 20,000 and was still

Mr Rahman said. "The prospects of a solution seem more and more remote. The option of war is not open to us; we are too poor. And yet confrontation can spiral so that we would have to take retaliatory steps. We have done everything possible to defuse the situation, through negotiations, but every day more people arrive."

Dhaka is still waiting for a promised visit by Burma's foreign minister to discuss the issue. The signs are that Rangoon has no interest in serious talks while it accelerates its "Burmanisation" drive against the Rohingyas, who arrive in Bangladesh without food or even cooking utensils. There is a desperate need for proper sanitation and the sinking of tube wells for water.

Inside Burma dissident students have admitted that its members executed 15 alleged government spies in a single day last month. The killings took place on February 12 in the rebel-held town of Pajau in northern Burma's Kachin state, close to the Chinese border. Aung Htoo, a principal secretary of the All Burma Students' Democratic Front central committee, said:

It was the first time that front members, who fled central government rule after a brutal military takeover in 1988, have admitted executions, which are likely to reduce international sympathy for their movement. Aung Htoo said they were carried out without the knowledge of the central committee. The victims were in their twenties and thirties, he said.



growing. Airstrips and permanent new military structures were being built. Troop movements were continuing and he was worried that Burma might have "territorial ambitions".

Burmese Muslims, known as Rohingyas, are arriving in Bangladesh on board boats plying the Naf river, which marks the border. Some new arrivals claimed that Burmese troops killed 13 fleeing Muslims two days ago.

As the troubles intensify, Bangladesh has launched a diplomatic drive to increase international pressure on Burma to halt the offensive against the Rohingyas. "We do not want to have a problem with Burma, but the situation is beyond our control,"

The Labour leader lacks intellectual self-confidence, argues Peter Riddell

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

It is impossible to imagine him acting like Paul Keating, the Australian Labor leader. The re-

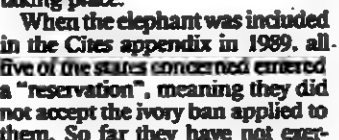
With the equally conservative John Smith as chancellor, a Blairite government might be cautious about confronting established opinion on the pound, public borrowing, Europe and Nato. The danger is not of a dramatic swing to the left, but rather of a loss of the remaining radical drive in Whitehall. The powers behind the throne are much more likely to be Sir Robin and the permanent secretaries than Norman Willis and the battered hangers of the TUC.

Messrs Major, Kinnock and Ashdown. The IRA campaign needs to be seen in proportion. Even in Northern Ireland, the statistical risk of becoming a casualty of IRA action is still small. Here in Great Britain it is infinitesimal.

After night raids during the Blitz there were often numerous

The incident is worth pondering as we consider the proper way to set about defeating an enemy who, though troublesome, is altogether less formidable than Hitler.

However, in southern Africa the picture is different. Due partly to good management and partly to geographic location, elephant populations have not suffered the same level of poaching and are relatively stable in much of the region. Indeed, in Zimbabwe and



One way of avoiding dissent, suggested by Kenya's Dr Richard Leakey, is to transfer stable, well-managed elephant populations in southern Africa to Gites appendix two, for less threatened species, on condition that there is no trade in ivory. This would have the important psychological effect of ac-

But a continuation of the ivory ban alone is not enough to ensure that elephants survive and thrive.

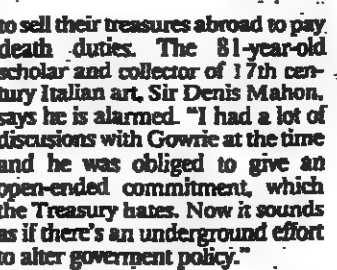
Dr Lyster is senior UK conservation officer, the World Wide Fund for Nature.

My own preference would be for something akin to those ready-made wills you can buy in W.H. Smith, where you simply fill in the blanks. With wills, of course, a witness is needed and fable tells of many a passer-by rushed in off the street to witness a will-making in a hurry.

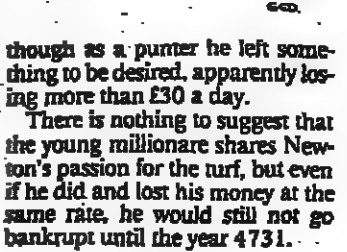
And there is non-performance. A columnist in a respectable paper trends with a respect for the William Kennedy Smith case, but offers a preview, and you will remember that contract law provides (as an alternative to awarding damages) for an order of "specific performance." Perhaps it is wisest simply to remind you of the courtroom scenes that could result, leaving your imagination to do the rest. Hurry, though. Our habit in Britain is to import America's more extravagant ideas fast. Soon, reality may race ahead of imagination.

The National Gallery, which will shortly unveil Cézanne's *The Stove in the Studio*, accepted in lieu of death duties from the estate of Mrs Chester Beatty, is particularly concerned that a limit may have been set. "We have long benefited from a policy of 'acceptance in lieu' of death duties," says a spokesman for the gallery.

Art collectors fear that imposing an upper limit may cause families



The grand nephew of the betting group founder, William Hill 18-year-old Ben Newton, was asked to leave the school last term for studying form at the family betting shops in preference to Shakespeare. He is determined to go into the family business full time.



It has always been assumed that the *fatwa* issued against Salman Rushdie cannot be rescinded under Islamic law. Not so — there is a well-documented precedent. In 1890 the ruler of Iran, Naser ed-Din Shah, sold his country's entire tobacco crop to Britain's Imperial Tobacco Company. Fundamentalists were so outraged that a religious leader, Mirza Shahrill, issued a *fatwa* banning smoking throughout the country. After a year of non-smoking, and under pressure from his harem denied their water pipes, the shah called off the deal and Shirazi rescinded the *fatwa*. Peter Mansfield, a writer on the Middle East, says: "Khomeini's replacement, Ayatollah Khamenei, could cancel the *fatwa* tomorrow."

The National Liberal Club may seem an odd choice for a Democratic caucus: Liberal — "the I-



A CUTTING TOO FAR

To walk across the chalk downs of Hampshire and Wiltshire is to induce a feeling of awe mingled with humility. These hills, whose scale dwarfs the villages and towns around them, have coexisted with humans from the stone, bronze and iron ages. Men have left the odd monument — a white horse here, a hill fort, stone circle or barrow there — which the downs have absorbed with ease. How terrible, then, that the legacy of 20th-century "civilised" man should be a scarred 400ft wide and 100ft deep through one of the noblest examples of countryside left in southern England.

Work on the M3 extension running through Twyford Down could start at any time. The last legal obstacle fell at the weekend, when the required four months' notice expired. Artists' impressions of the proposed cutting bring to mind the damage wrought by a knife-wielding madman on an Old Master canvas. The difference is that a painting can be almost invisibly restored. Twyford Down, a designated area of outstanding natural beauty, with two sites of archaeological importance and two sites of special scientific interest in the path of the motorway, will never look the same again.

Man's capacity to destroy the beauty of the countryside is not matched by his ability to restore it. But there is one option for the M3 extension that reduces the environmental damage from sheer vandalism to a level that would be just about acceptable. That is to build a tunnel under Twyford Down. The transport department estimates that a tunnel would cost £85 million more, and has used the extra cost as an excuse not to heed the public enquiry's advice that a tunnel would be "environmentally superior".

Winchester's bypass dates from before the second world war and is heavily congested with traffic travelling between Southampton

and London. Most local people want the new road built, but they are almost unanimous in their opposition to the despoliation of the down. Some local Tories have even taken the government to the High Court in an unsuccessful effort to have the decision reversed.

The government has already conceded the importance of the environmental implications of new transport building. Margaret Thatcher insisted that British Rail spend over £100 million more than it had planned for its high-speed link through Kent to the channel tunnel, in order to build tunnels to protect the countryside. What is right for British Rail must be right for the transport department. Inevitably the cost of environmental damage is harder to calculate than that of boring a tunnel, but its incalculability rests at least in part on its enormity. The cutting will ruin countryside for every future generation. The offsetting benefit of not building a tunnel will be money saved by the government for just a few years, a blink of the eye in the lifetime of the downs.

This government trumpeted its green credentials in its 1990 environment white paper, but since then words have been more evident than action. If John Major is still prime minister in June, he will be urging Third World countries at the Earth Summit to do more to protect their rainforests and grasslands. How much weight will his words carry when he shows so little respect for his own country's natural heritage?

The countryside matters, and not least to Tory voters in southern England. In this feverish pre-election period, Mr Major is scattering money to almost every deserving cause he spies: the Manchester Olympic bid, HIV-infected haemophiliacs, working mothers. To reverse his decision on the Twyford Down cutting might be cynical, but it would be no less right for that.

THE DOCTOR'S DILEMMA

The Times continues its series of editorials on Thatcherism's "forgotten supply side": the professions. This week, medicine; next week, the engineering profession.

Of all the professions, medicine is one of those most reliant on vocation. Training is long, dealing with sickness can be distressing and irregular hours ruinous to family life. Most doctors choose their career by the age of 15. Yet many, once qualified, become disillusioned and convey their disillusion through a cantankerous professional lobby. Why the gulf between vocation and reality?

A survey by Isobel Allen, *Doctors and their Careers*, found that of those doctors who qualified in 1981, 46 per cent confessed that they had regretted doing so. Yet once they are in a career built on some six years of study and ten more of training, doctors feel trapped by the desire to realise some return on their investment. Central to this entrapment is the archaic nature of medical education and the stiffened joints of the National Health Service which so dominates the working lives of doctors. Both have developed mostly under the control of the profession itself, though the NHS is now being amended by potentially drastic government reform.

Medical education is among the most conservative of all vocational training. Inspired by Mr Gradgrind — "What I want is Facts... Facts alone are wanted in life" — students are taught by a mixture of rote learning and ritual humiliation familiar to lovers of 1950s Ealing comedies. Much of what they learn will never be used again. There is little instruction in alternative medicine, in community medicine or in human relations and other skills assumed to be not part of the job.

The sweated labour of hospital training, through which all doctors must pass, benefits neither doctors nor patients and plays a large part in junior doctor demoralisation. Yet it is defended by consultants since it suits their more relaxed lifestyle and, in the phrase used to defend so many restrictive practices, "we had to do it ourselves once". So punishing is this apprenticeship that many young doctors, even if they had earlier planned to remain on the consultancy ladder, step off into general practice.

At least this means that every doctor has had some experience of hospital work, unlike the bifurcation of lawyers into solicitors and barristers. British general practice is among the finest in the world and continues to offer trained doctors a career free of some of the pressures of high-tech hospitals. Women now make up half of all medical graduates and, as GPs, they can work part-time while having children. For some, this is a valuable escape from the male-dominated world of consultancy, where women still make up just 15.5 per cent of the total. Others want to see the career structure of hospital medicine improved to make it more compatible with family life.

Although the status of general practice has risen over the past couple of decades, those who remain in hospital medicine still tend to look down on it. Over the years, this superiority has been reflected in the flow of resources into hospitals, especially buildings. Current NHS reforms have managed to prise minor surgery out of the hands of hospitals and give it back to GPs. But the profession is structured to defend its status quo: longer-than-necessary training, near intolerable job conditions for those beneath the consultant level, a system of patronage and personal recommendation for appointments, limits on the number of consultancy posts. These restrictive practices protect the prestige and income of consultants, but are good neither for the rest of the profession nor for the patients they serve. Doctors remain reluctant to delegate diagnosis or treatment to paramedical staff, nurses or pharmacists, despite the considerable savings that might result.

How might reform proceed? Education and training must be modernised. Already, a

drop-off in applicants to read medicine is lowering the entrance requirements. Word has trickled down to bright schoolchildren studying science that medicine is not a satisfying profession. More important, that threat to every conservative profession, the consumer in the market place, is making itself felt. Much of medicine has lost its mystique. Television, health journalism, manuals and publicity for alternative remedies are leading to a minor rebellion among patients. Complaints to family health service authorities have doubled in the past decade. Perhaps more significantly, many people have lost faith in conventional medicine's ability to cure all their ills; even the sceptical are turning to osteopathy or homeopathy or acupuncture.

Doctors are thus feeling threatened by alternative medicine (though medical education has not seen fit to meet the threat). But they are being assailed too by politicians. Financial dependence on government has long rankled with doctors but like many so dependent, the drug has become habit-forming. When the NHS was set up, what doctors objected to most was Aneurin Bevan's proposal that the NHS be salaried. But once used to the NHS, doctors, other than those in private practice, lost the spur of competition and relied on a starkly self-centred union, the British Medical Association, to maintain income each year.

Now the government is forcing on GPs and hospitals a new cast of mind, that of making decisions on scarce resource allocation. At the cutting edge of this reform is the fundholding GP. Nothing is more likely to raise the status and thus morale of GPs than this innovation, though this in no way diminished the BMA's hostility to it. Doctors are making their surgeries more convenient and attractive to patients. They are becoming aware of hospital costs. Hospitals, not least the gross oversupply of them in central London, are having to market themselves to GP fundholders who have the power to award them contracts. The consultant now has to return the GP's call, a sure measure of the changing balance of power.

Hospital doctors may feel intimidated by managers, a new breed of hospital animal. These representatives of government are forcing doctors not just to make choices — they always had to do that — but to do so in a rational, open way. In a demand-led public health service with necessarily limited cash, not all patients can be treated immediately, or at all. Rational choices on priorities cannot be made without information on the cost and effectiveness of treatment. Whether they like it or not, doctors are having to consider supply, demand and equilibrium price.

Doctors must now accept that patients will shop around. They will take the NHS principle of a second opinion to its logical conclusion. They will want the best doctor, the best hospital, the best medicine. Some will go private, and others may be sent to private hospitals, their treatment paid for by their health authority. Consultants, who have seen their income from the private sector increase enormously in the past few years, will become richer still — as long as they win popularity with increasingly assertive patients.

The doctor of the future will be trained in alternative as well as conventional methods and will be as much a manager and marketer as a medic. Some doctors who shrank from the latter changes when they were first mooted by the health department are now finding, to their surprise, that they enjoy the challenge of thinking strategically as well as clinically. Though others may not yet realise it, this dose of political reform could not just produce a better health service but make a more satisfying profession into the bargain.

Parents' choice of excellence in assisted-place schooling

From Mr D. J. Woodhead

Sir, The fundamental justification for public funding of some places in independent schools is that it extends parental choice. In most liberal democracies, in Europe and elsewhere, that is sufficient. To say, as your leading article (February 28) does, that the choice is the school's, not the parents', is perverse. The schools choose to be in the scheme. The parents choose the schools. Their children justify that choice by spectacularly good examination results.

That does not mean excellence cannot be achieved in state schools: we know it can and is. But the decision about where a child is most likely to achieve excellence must be for parents, not politicians (or even *The Times*) to make.

You rightly say that universal state education requires that everybody pays and is entitled to benefit. You also say freedom of choice requires that the state should not have a monopoly. That is right, too. But you then say that as those who "opt out" and use independent schools pay twice, "some tax benefit for private-sector services restores a rough equity. Labour should leave these arrangements alone".

What tax benefit? There is no tax benefit for independent-sector parents, nor in my view should there be. There are no "arrangements" for Labour to leave alone other than the assisted-places scheme, which it wishes to abolish.

You say "a dozen other voting causes might be found for £67 million". Labour has found them. But it won't be able to fund them from the assisted-places budget, first, because it intends to phase out places over seven years rather than scrap the scheme overnight (which is more humane than its pre-1987 policy); secondly, because, when all have been phased out, the children who would have been on assisted places will be a full cost to the state system.

Independent schools' own bursaries and scholarships "subsidise" more than twice as many children as are helped by the assisted-places scheme. But to remove the latter would be a step towards confining

that "freedom of choice" which you extol to those who can afford full fees.

Labour tells our schools they must serve their local communities, which most schools in the scheme have been doing for centuries. But it will remove a scheme which helps them do precisely that.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID J. WOODHEAD
(National Director)
Independent Schools Information Service,
56 Buckingham Gate, SW1,
February 28.

From Mr R. J. Wilson

Sir, Your leader misuses statistical information, smears the private system in its suggestion that support for the assisted-places scheme is based on a desperate need to keep up numbers, and above all shows a lack of understanding of the real and honourable case for assisted places within the total national provision.

The Mori research does not show that "only some 40 per cent of these places... go to the less well-off". It shows that 64 per cent of families concerned earn less than the national average wage. It does show that about 40 per cent of the places go to children from socio-economic groups C2, D and E. Anyone with knowledge of the participation rate of these groups in higher education will immediately recognise that this is an impressive figure.

While some sectors of private education in a time of recession are having to adjust to falling rolls, the vast majority of assisted-places schools represent the city grammar school tradition. Demand has grown significantly, and continues to grow.

You refer to an investigation by the Audit Commission to establish "added value". The commission's document is clearly stated to be an ideas paper rather than a fully researched investigation. It investigates the correlation between GCSE and A-level results as a possible means of establishing added value given in the sixth-form years.

The very obvious flaw is that the better the preparation for GCSE, the less scope for added value. One quarter of the candidates from my

school get A grades in every subject, so the potential for added value is nil.

We offer a different style of education to that of the comprehensive system. My concern, which leads me to support the scheme with passion, is the evidence I am regularly faced with of how academic ability is not being developed. I find it deeply depressing that I cannot accept a transfer from a maintained comprehensive school after, at the latest, the start of the third year because candidates are hopelessly far behind the level achieved by the pupils we have had for two years.

The appropriate education for academically bright children is the issue highlighted by the assisted-places scheme, one which needs to be urgently addressed in the national interest.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN WILSON (Vice Chairman,
Academic Policy Committee,
Headmasters' Conference),
Trinity School, Shirley Park,
Croydon, Surrey,
February 28.

From the General Secretary,
Independent Schools Joint Council

Sir, Virtually every other European country has a conscriptive partnership between the independent and maintained sectors of education. The idea that independent schools should be exclusively for the rich is anathema to them.

There are of course many patterns of such partnership and it may be that the assisted-places scheme is not the best one, but to abandon it would be just one more way of reinforcing divisions between rich and poor.

We need to explore ways in which the two sectors can better complement one another rather than move further and further apart. Surely in the new Europe we can look beyond our outdated domestic squabbles and finally shed our bizarre national hang-up about "private" education.

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR HEARNDEN,
General Secretary,
Independent Schools Joint Council,
Grosvenor Gardens House,
35-37 Grosvenor Gardens, SW1,
February 28.

a maximum of seven years in prison, and its sale by life.

It would be better, I suppose, if everyone abstained from both alcohol and drugs. Otherwise, it seems to me, we should either criminalise everyone, apart from testotters, or no one.

Prohibition did not work in the United States in the case of alcohol, nor will it here, in my view, in the case of drugs. Legalisation, education, and regulation are far more likely to control the use of drugs than criminal sanction is to eradicate it.

Yours faithfully,
HARRY POTTER,
8 Hoods Farm Close, Birtton,
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire,
February 23.

Anonymous persons in Northern Ireland continue to use all these to kill and maim and to destroy property. It seems reasonable to ask whether the government consulted the police and military authorities there before concluding that it is unnecessary to introduce identity cards in the fight against terrorism.

Yours faithfully,
A. P. H. HUMPHREY
(Secretary for Defence and Internal Security, Malaysia, 1953-7),
14 Ambrose Place,
Worthing, Sussex,
February 26.

It would appear to be a highly profitable investment. American aid to Israel over the years has risen from an annual level of less than \$100 million between 1948 and 1962, to \$500 million a year after the 1967 war, to the current yearly sum of \$4 billion. Its effect on Congress's consistent support in the past for Israel is now plain to see.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD MILLS, Director,
Council for the Advancement of
Arab-British Understanding,
The Arab-British Centre,
21 Collingham Road, SW5,
February 26.

The prospect of the transfer of support to their opponents, a very damaging threat with the unlimited funding of a candidate's election campaign under the American system.

Instant international law provided by the Security Council has many uses; but if the new world order is not to be at the mercy of possibly hectic and immediate alliances, the ICJ has to be an essential part of it. The United States should not be encouraged — which is what HMG has been doing — to suppose that international law does not apply to it.

The fact that our nuclear weapons, and now presumably our seat in the Security Council, are at the mercy of whoever happens to be president of the United States is admittedly awkward: all the more reason surely for boosting our international standing along with that of our European partners.

Yours etc.,
ELIZABETH YOUNG,
100 Bayswater Road, W2.

Quest for a new king in Georgia

From Mr Charles Tchkotoua

Sir, Edward Owen's account (February 24) of two Georgian politicians' mission to restore the country's monarchy after 190 years is most misleading.

Members of the Bagration family, including its head, Prince Jorge, declared long before the politicians left Tbilisi that they were not prepared to return to Georgia or to discuss any possible restoration until the constitution and democratically elected government of President Zviad Gamsakhurdia were restored.

The politicians in question, Mr Giorgi Chanturia and Mr Temur Zhorjoliani, do not even represent the present regime in Georgia nor the parliament and certainly not the people. Their aim was clear: the creation of a puppet monarchy ruled over by an illegal regime. Thankfully it has failed.

The actions on the part of the Bagration family are indeed admirable and are in line with the policies of all western governments, including that of the United Kingdom.

There is a strong movement within the country for the return of the monarchy. This question cannot be answered, however, until the democratic process has been restored within the country.

Yours sincerely,
CHARLES TCHKOTOUA
(UK representative of
President Zviad Gamsakhurdia
of the Republic of Georgia),
The Street, SW3,
February 25.

From the Secretary of the
Monarchist League

Sir, Giorgi Chanturia and Temur Zhorjoliani hold no official position in Georgia and are not even members of the Georgian parliament. Their interest is in finding a member of the royal family who will give legitimacy to their personal ambitions for power by acting as a puppet figurehead.

Prince Jorge Bagration wisely refused to see them, and certainly would not, as some other reports have suggested, countenance one of his young sons going to Georgia as king under a regency of self-seeking politicians. The two delegates have now, apparently, gone off in search of a more pliant member of the Bagration family, and one hopes they will be unsuccessful.

The restoration of the monarchy is Georgia's real hope of continuity, stability and unity in a troubled country; but Prince Jorge will not leave what the self-appointed delegates call "the good life in Spain" until and unless he is invited to return by Georgia's people through a referendum or their elected representatives, with a mandate to do so.

Yours faithfully,
DONALD FOREMAN, Secretary,
The Monarchist League,
BM "Monarchist",
London WC1N 3XJ,
February 25.

Aircraft safety

From the Chairman of the Air Transport Users' Committee

Sir, Recent correspondence (February 11, 15, 20, 24) has shown how finely balanced are the arguments for and against the fitting of smokehoods and other devices designed to assure survival in cases of aircraft fire.

As a committee representing the interests of all passengers, we recognise the difficulties encountered by the Civil Aviation Authority in reaching its decision not to require the provision of smokehoods on British-registered aircraft. Equally, we accept that water-spray equipment, whatever current doubts, may be able to provide proper protection in due course.

Nevertheless, water-spray technology is still at the experimental stage. Simple and effective smokehoods could be made available quickly. The experience of committee members who have tested smokehoods in real fires has convinced us that, whatever may happen in the longer term, they should be fitted now.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN COX, Chairman,
Air Transport Users' Committee,
2nd Floor, Kingsway House,
103 Kingsway, WC2,
February 27.

Speaking in tongues

From Mr Nicholas Rowntree

Sir, Bernard Levin (article on multilingual labels, February 17) might possibly be interested to know that, following a prostate operation recently, I was provided with packs of a very useful and comfortable "Droppskydd" which was also known as, inter alia, "Druppelvanger", "Pis-ankerkräjä" or even "Tropfenfänger Mit Supersaugstoff".

Also, before shaving, I now smear my face with "Barbersaum".

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS ROWNTREE,
Hill House, Great Waltham,
Chelmsford, Essex,
February 21.

Business letters, page 23

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

OBITUARIES

RICHARD ZIEGLER

Richard Ziegler, last survivor of the classic generation of German modernist painters, died on February 23 aged 100. He was born in Pforzheim, southwest Germany, on May 3, 1891.

THERE was a time when Richard Ziegler was known and remembered (if at all) only as Robert Ziller, the name he assumed when he took refuge from the Nazis in England in 1937. As Ziller, he was a prolific cartoonist and illustrator, and on occasion a poignant recorder of the Blitz and its effects. The reputation was topical and after the war Ziegler disappeared from public awareness when he went back to Germany and became Ziegler again. As Ziegler, he made a new reputation for himself as a brilliant illustrator, somewhat in the manner of Kokoschka. But few remembered his earlier work.

A degree of public forgetfulness is understandable, since Ziegler never fitted well into conventional categories. He never belonged completely to any movement like Expressionism or the *Neue Sachlichkeit*, and the only organisation he ever allied himself to, the *Novembergruppe*, was no more coherent than any alliance of artists whose main common interest is getting their work exhibited. In fact, though he was influenced by Cubism, especially in some of his early landscapes, he was closest to the so-called "critical realism" of the *Neue Sachlichkeit*. But he was ultimately too humane and good-natured to be classed with George Grosz and Otto Dix, he might depict prostitutes and greedy bourgeois in streets and restaurants, but he obviously liked them and sympathised with them too much to qualify as a satirist.

Ziegler was born in Pforzheim, educated at the Reudick-Gymnasium and spent an early year in Stratford-upon-Avon learning English and preparing his philological studies, which he pursued in Geneva and Heidelberg. He was called up in 1914, wounded in France, and invalided out of the army, spending



Richard Ziegler with a self portrait of 1932

the rest of the war teaching in Calw (where his museum was eventually to be), and by 1919 had completed his PhD. As an artist, he was entirely self-taught, and did not seriously begin to think of an artistic career until after the war, when he embarked on a series of woodcuts.

He established his studio in Pforzheim in 1920, travelled extensively, particularly in Italy, and moved to Berlin in 1925. There most of his artistic contacts were with the *Novembergruppe*, which he joined in 1926, largely through his friendship with a leading light of the group, Arthur Segal, himself also later an emigré in England. The catholic approach of the group suited him well. It included a number of artists, Tappert most notably, who clearly felt much as Ziegler did about feminine charms and were not ashamed to admit their tastes in

public. Also, the group did not limit its members unduly if they wanted to play their own games on the ground where realism and abstraction met, not necessarily with daggers drawn. Ziegler liked to keep his options open, and the *Novembergruppe* was the place where he could do it. Some of his paintings of the Twenties stay very close to the simplified Realism characteristic of a painter like Paula Modersohn-Becker. Others develop the Expressionist which was Ziegler's immediate heritage, producing rather nightmarish phantasmagorical images or the modest distortions of a painter like Josef Scharl. When Ziegler turned, as he frequently did, from figure to landscape, the formalist element, somewhere between Cubism and Deco, came to the fore.

These drawings are about as close as Ziegler ever comes to abstraction; and it is not very close. He was therefore more likely to find himself bracketed with the left-wing satirists, and though he was not really of a satirical turn of mind and not even, it seems, very strongly political, his images of the Nazi leaders were sufficiently objective to cause offence. He saw them as faintly absurd when they wanted to be regarded as heroic, and since humour and a humanistic sense of proportion had small roles in their psyche, it was inevitable that he should be in trouble in Germany after the Nazi takeover in 1933 — for his presumed political attitudes rather than from any more purely aesthetic unacceptability. Wisely, he took refuge on the Dalmatian island of Korcula, where he had spent a successful season painting the previous year.

For Ziegler, emigration was a less dramatic break than for many of his contemporaries. He continued drawing and painting in the styles, and on the subjects, that he had established for himself in the Twenties, making larger and more richly coloured landscapes in crayon and pastel, still drawing pretty girls when opportunity offered, portraying the Nazis with some positive venom, and embarking on several ambitious cycles of book illustration which would carry him through to the Sixties. In painting, as the

Thirties progressed, he became increasingly neo-classical in his preoccupations, working on subjects from classical myth in a crisply realistic style which, ironically, might have recommended him in a Nazi Germany where artists such as his namesake, Adolph Ziegler, were official favourites.

Transferred to Paris, and then in 1937 to England, Ziegler disappeared from view for a decade or more, or, more correctly, he took on a new personality, as "Robert Ziller", drawing innumerable illustrations and cartoons for newspapers and magazines, and bringing out the graphic volume *We Make History* in 1941. But in general his deeper life as an artist was conducted in private. His more ambitious paintings were seldom exhibited, and his important series of illustrations for Heinrich Mann's *Henri Quatre* novels, on which he had been working since 1935, was not published until 1967. In a way, this private life of Richard Ziegler within the public life of Robert Ziller, was a creative advantage to him, since it allowed him to continue unimpeded with his technical explorations and develop his style free from outside pressures.

In 1960 Ziegler moved back to Germany and in 1963 went to Majorca. He started exhibiting in Germany and working as an illustrator for German publishers. Gradually attention was paid. In 1982, he established the collection of his works for the museum of Calw, and enjoyed in his old age a fame greater than he had ever known. He continued to work well into his nineties, and set up house in Pforzheim with a new companion, Susan Snow, when he was 98. It was characteristic of his whimsical and unpredictable temperament that 18 months ago he took to his bed and indicated that he was ready to die. An old friend, called in to remonstrate, accused him of selfishness: he was doing this just to cheat his friends out of celebrating his 100th birthday. He considered this carefully, and the next day got up and continued with his life.

He was married twice, to the painter Mathilde Rosenthal, and to Edith Lendt. He leaves a daughter.

PROF SIR ROBERT BRADLAW

Professor Sir Robert Vivian Bradlaw, CBE, president of the General Dental Council, 1964-74, died on February 12 aged 86. He was born in Dublin on April 14, 1905.

THROUGH his academic career and his work on government committees and the General Dental Council Robert Bradlaw exerted immense personal influence on the British and international dental profession for over 55 years. He was a member of a large family (one could almost say a clan) whose professional leanings were towards medicine and dentistry. His father had died while Bradlaw was in his early teens and he moved with his mother to England to complete his general education at Cranleigh.

After qualifying at Guy's Hospital, in dentistry (1926) and in medicine (1928), he did some private practice, made a voyage as a ship's surgeon to the Far East and held some part-time academic appointments. The position of dental surgery, which was still emerging as a learned profession, engaged both his academic and professional political aptitudes.

In 1936 he was appointed to the newly-established chair of dental surgery at the dental school at Newcastle upon Tyne, at that time within the University of Durham. Bradlaw made a great impact upon local and national dentistry during the war years and afterwards. He revolutionised the dental undergraduate curriculum, organised a national meeting in Newcastle of the British Dental Association in 1939 and was a member of the Dental Board of the United Kingdom which operated under the auspices of the General Medical Council.

He was also a member of the government's Inter-departmental Committee in Dentistry which made far-reaching recommendations for dentistry and its role in the future National Health Service. Bradlaw worked closely with Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson, Sir Wilfred Fish and Sir William Kelsey Fry, and it was in no small measure due to his industry and vision that

the faculty of dental surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons of London was established in 1947. It was natural that he should be appointed its first dean.

After 24 years service to the university and its dental school, Bradlaw left to become dean and director of studies at the Institute of Dental Surgery and director of the Eastman Dental Hospital in 1960; he was, too, professor of oral medicine in the University of London. He was president of the General Dental Council, 1964-74, as well as being a life-long member of the British Dental Association and its president in 1974.

At Newcastle Bradlaw had explored with colleagues the rich Northumbrian resources of salmon fishing and game shooting, but before leaving for London he abandoned these pursuits and interested himself in collecting items of artistic merit such as eighteenth century paintings and Chinese and Korean Celadon ware. In retirement he installed a kiln at his delightful old home in Stoke Goldington, and he spent many happy hours at his potter's wheel.

Following the advice of Voltaire's Candide he cultivated his garden with special enthusiasm for orchids. Sometime during midlife he became a Roman Catholic and derived great spiritual comfort from his faith. Robert Bradlaw, who was unmarried, was a private though in many ways sociable man, who will always remain something of an enigma even to those who knew him best.



PIERRE DERVAUX

Pierre Dervaux, French conductor, died in Marseilles on February 20 aged 75. He was born at Juvigny, near Paris, on January 3, 1917.

PIERRE Dervaux was one of the most experienced and longest serving of French conductors, as successful in the opera house as in the concert hall. He was chief conductor, from 1956, and then music director, from 1971, at the Paris Opera and vice-president of the Conservatoire de Paris from 1949 to 1955. During the 1960s he was for a time music director of the Quebec Symphony Orchestra. Later he had appeared as guest conductor throughout Europe and the United States.

Dervaux's father was a trombone player in the Colonne orchestra. Dervaux himself entered the Paris Conservatoire at the age of nine. At 17 he became the timpanist of the Paderloup Orchestra and conducted it for the first time in 1945. He made his first appearance in the pit of the Opéra-Comique in 1947 conducting *Manon*. His debut at the Opéra came

in 1956 with *Rigoletto*. He also conducted frequently at the Chicago Lyric Opera.

Dervaux's most substantial reputation was, perhaps, achieved on disc. He made a long and distinguished series of recordings of French music, of which his readings of Bizet's *Les Pêcheurs de Perles* with Michéa, Gedda and Blanc in the cast and Poulenc's *Les Dialogues des Carmélites* and a much admired record of extracts from Massenet's *Thaïs* are particularly notable and have had a new currency on compact disc.

He also recorded much of the nineteenth century French repertoire for the orchestra. His interpretations have the stamp of unobtrusive authority and the very French characteristic of avoiding excess. As a retiring personality, he made less of an impact than his undoubtedly skills and understanding demanded.

Dervaux held courses on conducting in Montreal from 1965 to 1971 and also taught at the Ecole Normale in Paris. He composed two symphonies, a piano concerto, a cello concerto and a string quartet.

Stanley Thornton, life president of Thorntons, confectionery specialists, died on February 27 aged 88. He was born on September 5, 1903.

THE death of Stanley Thornton means the severance of the last direct link with the founding of the company which is now one of Europe's largest specialist confectionery manufacturers and retailers. Thornton was started by Stanley's father Joseph William Thornton in Sheffield in 1911. At that time Stanley's elder brother Norman, who died in 1984, was, at the age of 14, helping to run the company's first sweet shop in Sheffield.

Stanley Thornton joined Norman in J. W. Thornton Ltd in 1921 at the age of 18. He had won a scholarship to Sheffield University but the death of his father two years earlier had left Norman as the sole wage earner. Stanley worked in the firm by day and studied food technology by night.

The partnership between the brothers laid the foundation for the company's success, with Stanley developing the manufacturing side of the business and Norman using his retailing skills. An important landmark in the development of the firm came in 1925 when Stanley created the recipe for Thorntons Special Toffee which was to become the product on which the company's early reputation was built. The decision to ice customers' names on Easter eggs was another innovation which continues today with great success. Thorntons opened its first purpose-built factory in Sheffield in 1935, by which time the company had 35 shops in 18 towns.



After the war and the end of sweet rationing in 1952 the brothers took their company through a period of rapid expansion; during this time Stanley's son, Michael, and Norman's three sons joined their fathers in the business. Stanley became chairman in 1971 when his brother retired, and perhaps his proudest moment came in 1985 when

the Queen opened the new factory at Thornton Park in Alfreton. When the company was floated on the Stock Exchange in 1988 he became its life president.

As president his first duty was to perform the opening ceremony for the second phase of the Thornton Park development. He continued to take an active interest in all aspects of the company, making regular shop and factory visits and hardly missing a board meeting right up until his death.

Stanley Thornton was active in his local community; for many years he was a governor and generous benefactor of St Elphin's school, near Matlock. He was a life member of the Matlock Olympic society and of Matlock golf club in recognition of his service to these organisations. His prowess at golf is reflected in his having completed a round in 77 strokes at the age of 77 and playing a hole in one at the age of 80.

Thornton was also a fine bridge player and on one occasion, having won a gold medal in a major tournament, he promptly sold it to help a friend who was short of money.

In 1932 Thornton married Jeanette Jamieson and they had six children. It was a great sadness to him that "Nesta" died just before what would have been their Golden Wedding anniversary. Stanley Thornton is survived by four daughters and a son, Michael, who is now deputy chairman of the company.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Samuel Houston, first president of the Republic of Texas 1836-38, 1841-44, Rockbridge Court, Virginia, 1793; Bedřich Smetana, composer, Litomyšl, Czechoslovakia, 1824; Eugenio Pacelli, Pope Pius XII 1859-45, Rome, 1876; Kurt Weill, composer, Dessau, Germany, 1900. DEATHS: Louis de Rouvry, Duc de Saint-Simon, diarist, Paris, 1755; John Wesley, evangelist, London, 1791; Horace Walpole, novelist and historian, Twickenham, 1797; D. H. Lawrence, novelist, Venice, France, 1930; Howard Carter, discoverer of the tomb of Tutankhamun (1922), London, 1939; Aorin, pseudonym of José Martínez Ruiz, novelist, Madrid, 1967; Joan Greenwood, film actress, 1987.

Attempted assassination of Queen Victoria at Windsor, 1882. The British Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition led by (Sir) Vivian Fuchs completed the crossing begun on November 24, 1957, 1958.

Rare painting

Villagers have launched a £5,000 appeal to restore a medieval wall painting at Astbury church, near Congleton, Cheshire, showing St George being knighted by the Virgin Mary after slaying the dragon. The painting has been identified by Anna Hulbert, a conservator from Oxford, as probably the sole survivor of a series of fifteenth century pictures depicting the life of St George that fell victim to Victorian church restorers.

Hazhir Teimourian

Which way for Central Asian Muslims?

THE peoples of the old backwater republics of the former Soviet Union in the Caucasus and Central Asia might be forgiven for feeling euphoric these days. Not only do they suddenly find themselves free of Russian imperial rule for two centuries without having fired a shot, they also discover that they are being wooed by outside powers, big and small, on all sides. From far away have arrived the foreign secretaries of Britain and America, while numerous high-ranking ministers from Turkey, Iran and Pakistan, have been vying with one another for audiences at the courts of the newly independent rulers and showered them with gifts.

The competition is fierce and undignified. As well as offering the new nations money, cheap oil and joint industrial projects, Turkey and Iran are foisting thousands of old typewriters on them to help persuade them to adopt the Latin or Arabic scripts, as the case may be, and Pakistan has hurriedly ended its support for fundamentalist Afghan Mujahedin guerrillas in the hope of winning the permission of the Kabul government to build a railway across that country into central Asia.

But the competition is, ultimately, between the strident, politically sculpted Islam of Iran, which is sending 700 mullahs into the republics

this year, and the Western secular model of government as represented by Turkey, which has won the agreement of one of the republics, Azerbaijan, to send its trainee mullahs to Turkish mosques.

Who will win the race is still too early to predict. The newly independent nations have not had time to regain their composure, and they have a great deal to learn about the outside world, giving all the suitors reason to hope and to shudder. Iranian diplomats confide in one another that when their foreign minister, Dr Ali-Akbar Velayati, was making one of his tours of the republics, a senior official in Azerbaijan pulled him to a side to ask whether a famous belly dancer from the Shah's time was still alive.

On the other hand, Islamic religious fervour has been growing among the young populations of the region for some years. "Religion is spreading like cancer," said an anti-religious expert in Soviet Tajikistan in February 1987. "It is spreading all over our land. It is contaminating more and more people. Yesterday believers used to gather for an inoffensive prayer. Today they meet for collective mass rituals. What will they do tomorrow?" (V. Rabiev, *Kommunist Tadjikistana*). That tomorrow has dawned in the

form of the formal sweeping away of communist power; yet, during Tajikistan's first free presidential elections in November, the Islamic Party's candidate won less than 40 per cent of the vote. The republic's large Russian minority and the Tajik middle class in the cities made sure of an easy victory for the candidate of the old communist establishment, which also took full advantage of its firm control of the state bureaucracy. Under such circumstances, then, it could be argued that the result was not a mean one for a first excursion into politics by a new, inexperienced party.

Islamic activists also take heart from the rapid population growth of the native populations, immigration back into the Russian heartland of some of the newest settlers, and the immensity of the economic and social problems facing the republics.

All the factors at work in Algerian society that incline the people of that country towards militant Islam are also present in our region," said Abdul-Rashid Abdollah, the Central Asia specialist of the Tajik Academy of Sciences. "There is high unemployment among the young, a rapidly expanding population, alienation from the political establishment, still in the hands of the old rulers. If solutions are not found to these problems, only turmoil could lie ahead."

That turmoil could take a number of forms: violent uprisings of rulers by Islamic fundamentalists; abolition of free elections after a victory at the polls by Muslim militants; or wars between the republics out of disputes over frontiers or ideological interpretations. That would be despite the fact that the estimated 50 million Muslims of the region are Sunnis, as opposed to Shi'as, the branch of Islam with a clerical hierarchy that dominates Iran.

A possible parallel with the prelude to the Islamic revolution of Iran in 1979 is that many central Asian intellectuals are aligning themselves with Muslim militants in an opportunistic bid to out-maneuvre the latter after coming to power. Many of their Iranian counterparts who indulged in the same tactics are either dead or in exile.

In any case, those among the Sunni clerics in the region who are inspired by Iran and who believe that in Islam only the clergy, as the skilled interpreters of the Koran, make rightful rulers, are watching and learning. The Grand Mufti of one of the capital cities recently confided in a visitor from Britain that he was glad his party had lost his country's last election. "Let the old communists try and discredit themselves first," he said. "Our turn will come."

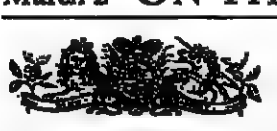
LIVES REMEMBERED

A COLLECTION of 180 obituaries from the 900 or so published on this page during 1991 has been produced in book form, edited by David Heston and John Higgins, under the title *Lives Remembered*.

The bishops, judges and peers who traditionally occupied the obituary columns now mingle with businessmen, TV stars and sportsmen. The infamous may occasionally rub shoulders with the famous — all walks and conditions of life are represented. *Lives Remembered*, fully illustrated and with a foreword by Lord Amman, is available at £19.95 from the Bletchley Press, Pangbourne (Tel. 0734 843377 Fax 0734 843366).

Mail order coupon on facing page

March 2 ON THIS DAY 1950



Young criminals of today should perhaps think themselves fortunate that they are less likely, having been convicted of robbery with violence, to come across a judge such as Lord Goddard, Lord Chief Justice (1877-1971).

PUNISHMENT FIT FOR BRUTALITY

Comments on the right and fitting punishment for youthful criminals were made by the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Goddard, at the Central Criminal Court yesterday when James Robert George Watson, 17, moulder's apprentice, of Gilbert Road, Belvedere, and Roger Norman Eves, 15½, junior clerk, of South Road, Erith, pleaded "Guilty" to robbing with violence Ethel Anne Miller of a wallet containing £1.

Watson was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment, and Eves was ordered to be detained for seven years in such a place as the Secretary of State might direct.

Watson, armed with a cash loaded with lead, and Eves, carrying a pistol, attacked Mrs. Miller in a two-decker train outside a tunnel at Blackheath, inflicting such injuries to her face and head that for some time she was in grave danger of her losing her life.

SHOCKING CASE

Delivering judgment, the Lord Chief Justice said: "I think this is the most shocking and disturbing case that has ever come to my notice during the 17 years I have been a judge. You two boys, one 17 and the other 15, to satisfy your greed, deliberately planned and armed yourselves and went looking for a defenceless woman. Both of you make it quite clear that you hadn't the pluck to attack a man. When you found a lady alone, you

Eves, hit her on the head with a murderous weapon. You, Watson, beat her with a club of heavy lead, and you tried to put the poor bleeding woman under the sea where she might have died. This case must give one furiously to think if the modern methods of dealing with young criminals are not to some extent responsible for these outrages. "You, and other young hooligans like you, think you can escape punishment — nothing but approved schools, and that if you were older, the most that can happen to you is detention in a Borstal establishment, from which you would try to escape at the earliest possible moment. It ought not to be regarded as a punishment, and it ought not to be thought that when grave crime has been committed, it is enough. "If there is no punishment, how can you expect any diminution in juvenile crime? I consider that this constant binding over is very largely responsible for crime. I am going to punish you both severely. "The sentences I am going to pass on you may be a warning to others of like kidney. It is not for me to criticise the wisdom of Parliament that prevents me from what I might have done 18 months ago, when I could have had you well whipped and given you a short sentence. I am going to pass a long sentence as I am satisfied there is no other way of dealing with it. It is not a case for Borstal, but a case of callous brutality."

At the Old Bailey yesterday, George Palumbo, aged 25, a motor driver, of Landridge Road, Fulham, was charged with robbing with violence Mrs. Adelaide Mary Richey, a widow, aged 60, of 64 and a leather flying jacket. He pleaded "Guilty" and was sentenced by the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Goddard, to ten years' imprisonment. "The amount of violence that is going on is shocking," Lord Goddard said. "I believe it is largely due to the fact that you men now know you can no longer be whipped for it."

MPs of all parties will urge King to rethink army cuts

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE government will be accused by an all-party Commons committee this week of making excessive reductions in the size of the army. MPs on the defence committee will call on ministers to look again at the cuts, which are already being implemented.

The criticism of the government's Options for Change defence review, which is to reduce army manpower by 25 per cent from 156,000 to 116,000, will come just two days after the launch of the first Trident ballistic missile submarine. Tom King, the defence secretary, will be at the VSEI shipyard at Barrow-in-Furness, in Cumbria, on Wednesday to launch HMS Vanguard. The an-

nouncement of an order for the fourth Trident submarine may also be made this week.

The defence committee's report on army cuts is to be published on Friday. MPs took a highly critical stance when questioning ministers during the committee hearings and their views are reflected in the report.

Although the forthright language demanded by some Labour members has been toned down, the report will emphasise the concern of all the MPs that the government has designed an army for the 1990s that will be incapable of meeting future commitments. The report will speak of the danger of overstretching resources, emphasising

the new commitments already facing the army this year, with a force of about 1,000 men bound for a peacekeeping role in Yugoslavia and the extra three infantry battalions sent to Northern Ireland.

Ministers told the MPs during the committee hearings that the Options for Change exercise had been based on a proper strategic assessment of Britain's future security requirements, taking into account the proposed role for British forces in the new Nato rapid reaction corps. Mr King insisted that the number of infantry battalions, to be cut from 55 to 38, was sufficient to meet all future demands. The committee report will, however, underline the MPs' concern that Mr King has failed to get the balance right.

One of the main complaints during the questioning of ministers was that the Options for Change exercise was "Treasury-driven". However, the MPs seem to have accepted Mr King's insistence that although the review was Treasury-disciplined, it was led by the defence ministry.

Concern that the cuts have gone too far will be the principal message throughout the report, and the MPs are optimistic that the government will be flexible enough to revise its plans. Aware that the report is likely to be critical, the government is preparing to respond robustly to the MPs' concerns. Ministers remain convinced that they have produced the right formula for restructuring the armed forces. The first 3,350 soldiers were given their redundancy notices last week.

The government has said that a change of heart would be necessary only if there were to be some dramatic increase in commitments. Defence ministry sources said that this did not refer to additional peacekeeping roles or a demand for more troops in Ulster. "It would have to be something like the Soviet Union returning to its old self and Britain being required to station many more troops in central Europe," one source said.

Senior defence ministry officials also believe that even if more resources were made available, they would be used to buy better equipment rather than increase manpower.

Lowry painting is stolen at charity ball

By RICHARD DUCE

ONE of the best-known paintings by L. S. Lowry has been stolen from Glasgow's Kelvingrove municipal art gallery.

The painting, worth £150,000, was taken during a charity event at the gallery on Saturday night and police believe the thieves posed as ballgoers before escaping with Lowry's scene of street celebration on VE Day 1945. Because the Lowry scene is so well known, it should prove impossible to sell on the open market but there is a possibility that the picture was stolen to order. A police spokesman said that the painting appeared to have been expertly

removed and should be undamaged.

Julian Spalding, the head of Glasgow's art galleries, said last night: "The picture is worth about £150,000, but it is so famous it is unsaleable on the open market." The painting, hanging in a first floor gallery, was removed from its frame during the £35-a-head ball attended by 300 people to raise money for an art and museum complex at Kelvingrove.

Lowry (1887-1976) achieved success with his distinctive "matchstick men" street scenes, many of them based on the industry of his native Lancashire.



The stolen £150,000 Lowry, VE Day 1945



National pride: Rebecca Mulholland presenting a leek to her father, Andrew, a Welsh Guardsman, at the St David's Day parade at Alexander Barracks, Fribourg, Surrey, yesterday

Thousands delayed by bridge stuck on M40

Continued from page 1

ing it onto computer-controlled multi-wheeled transporter units. The first problems arose when one of the trailers began sinking into the ground laid underground beneath its wheels. Soft ground exposed by cutting into the motorway embankment had to be reinforced with steel sheeting. The transporters then rotated the bridge and started moving west. The bridge cracked.

The transport department said last night: "This has been a nightmare. I honestly don't know when the bridge will be moving again."

28,000 football fans defy bomb threat

Continued from page 1

for the game was 28,216, but the warning may have deterred some supporters. As the emergency at the station ended, another began at White Hart Lane. At 12.45 pm an unrecorded warning had been received of a bomb in the ground. Fans had not been admitted by then, and ground staff were immediately moved out.

Eventually the ground was opened after a thorough search with dogs. The decision to let the game go ahead was taken by Terry Venables, the club's chief executive, and Commander Anthony Comben, in charge of the

North London division. Forest won 2-1.

The IRA statement said: "As they face into a general election, our volunteers will continue to force their occupation of part of our country onto the British political agenda." Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, "utterly condemned" the IRA threat. He supported proposals for the addresses of candidates not to be published on nomination forms and ballot papers and urged all-party support for the change.

Terror publicity, page 2
John Gigg, page 14
Forest win, page 34

Corpses litter hills in Karabakh

Continued from page 1

"our side". Our group of Western journalists had embarked on a search-and-rescue flight that had turned into a combat mission.

Our flight consisted of the civilian passenger helicopter and two M24 Soviet attack helicopters in the Azerbaijani service, nicknamed flying crocodiles for their armoured. Our party was in the second crocodile. The civilian helicopter's job was to land in the mountains and pick up bodies at sites of the mass killings. The attack helicopters were there to give covering fire if necessary.

The operation showed a striking sign of the disintegration of the Soviet armed forces because our pilot was a Russian officer. An Azerbaijani official told us that there were now five former Soviet military helicopters — and their pilots — fighting for Azerbaijan. "They have signed contracts to fly for us," he said. The helicopter we engaged in combat was most probably flown by a brother-officer of our Russian pilot, but fighting for the Armenians rather than the Azerbaijanis.

We had taken off just before 5 pm on Saturday from the airfield of Agdam, and headed for the Armenian-controlled mountains of Karabakh, a sheer white wall in the distance.

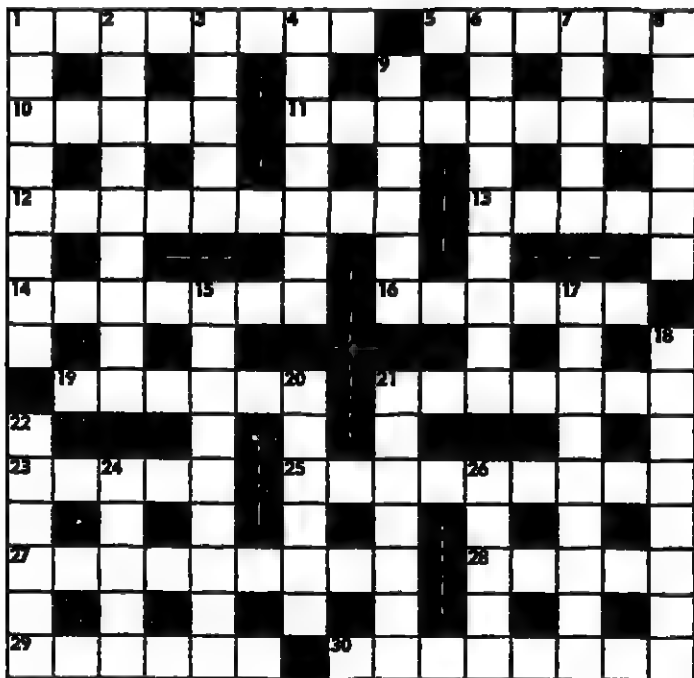
The civilian helicopter picked up four corpses, and it was during this and a previous mission that an Azerbaijani cameraman filmed the several dozen bodies on the hillsides. We then took off again in a hurry and sped back towards Azerbaijani lines. Azerbaijani gunners on the last hill before the plain — and safety —

gazed up at us as we passed. Back at the airfield in Agdam, we took a look at the bodies the civilian helicopter had picked up. Two old men and a small girl were covered with blood, their limbs contorted by the cold and rigor mortis. They had been shot.

What did our Russian pilot think of the tragedy, our close shave with Armenian gunfire, and the war in Nagorno-Karabakh in general? He gave us a cheerful grin, politely declined to answer questions, and marched off to his dinner, while the helicopter was refuelled for another hazardous run. Continuing Armenian sniper fire, however, yesterday forced the Azerbaijanis to abandon flights for the time being.

Plea to the West, page 10

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,855



ACROSS

- 1 Detective — one who makes mischief (8).
- 5 A piece, perhaps, of mental torture (6).
- 10 Aquatic plant first introduced by Bevan in speech (5).
- 11 Where guests are welcomed at home? (9).
- 12 Grant a discount (9).
- 13 Follow directions to go round university (5).
- 14 How Keats wrote? Quite the opposite (7).
- 16 For example, soldiers in retreat come out of hiding (6).
- 19 Scratches from honours course, say (6).
- 21 Accountant takes a bizarre tour round central Sardinia (7).
- 23 In the morning, I leave to see a foreign friend (5).
- 25 "Beware the awful —" (Long-fellow) (9)

DOWN

- 1 Favourite son's predicament in African country (8).
- 2 Consequence of firewood surplus? (9).
- 3 Gently sprinkle monk with water at initiation (5).
- 4 The German spirit, not quite in disorder (7).
- 5 Fear arrest (9).
- 7 Follows stories when read aloud (5).
- 8 Notebook about church journal (6).
- 15 A reasoned exposition in Latin, or a translation into English (9).
- 17 Irritate but manage to communicate (3,6).
- 18 Blank cheque has familiar writing (4,4).
- 20 Still getting interference? (6).
- 21 These days a chap can't in the end display an inflexible attitude (7).
- 22 Contracted out (6).
- 24 Furious tempo after introduction to Intermexco (5).
- 26 Joint stock bank, legally incorporated (5).



The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 18,854 will appear next Saturday. The 5 winners will receive a Duofold fountain pen supplied by Parker

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which definitions are correct?

By Philip Howard

- DICTIONARY**
- a. High-class
 - b. Legions
 - c. A sparrow of North America
- BUYYING**
- a. Pertaining to butter
 - b. Pastoral, cow-herding
 - c. Moving in an ellipse
- SERVICES**
- a. Consisting of silk
 - b. Semi-serious
 - c. Blooming in the winter
- IMMUNISATION**
- a. A fight
 - b. Shining bright
 - c. Dividing by halves

Answers on page 16

For the latest AA traffic and roadwork information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code

C London (within N & S Crcs)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M25	734
M-ways/roads M25-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Angles	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

Scotland will be showery in the west and north, but otherwise dry and bright, before rain from the west sweeps the region. Northern Ireland will be bright, with perhaps a shower in the north-west, before cloud brings rain south-eastwards. England and Wales will be dry and bright, with perhaps a shower in the north-west. Cloudier in northern England with patchy rain tonight. Windy in places. Outlook: rain in north; brighter in south.

MIDWAY: b-bomber; c-difficult; g-log; a-aunt; d-distant; e-emerald; f-fairy; h-habit; i-island

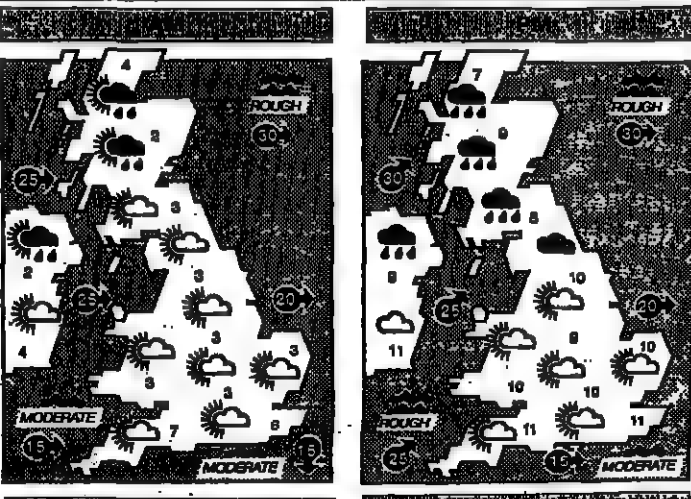
City	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Humid	Pres	Visib	Relat	Max	Min
Aberdeen	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Amsterdam	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Birmingham	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Belfast	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Bristol	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Cardiff	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Edinburgh	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Glasgow	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
London	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Manchester	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Newcastle	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Nottingham	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Plymouth	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Reading	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Sheffield	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Sunderland	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Swansea	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Torquay	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Weymouth	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Wick	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

These are Saturday's figures

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 600 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Devon & Cornwall	703
Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Avon, Somerset	704
Berkshire, Bucks, Oxon	705
Northants, Leics, Lincs	706
North York, Suffolk, Cambs	707
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	708
Shropshire, Herekts & Worcs	709
Central Midlands	710
East Midlands	711
Lincoln & Humbershire	712
Dyfed & Powys	713
Cardiff & Glam	714
N W England	715
N & S Yorks & Dalles	716
N E England	717
Cumbria & Lake District	718
S W Scotland	719
W Central Scotland	720
Edin S Fife/Lowther & Borders	721
Central Scotland	722
Highland & E Highlands	723
N W Scotland	724
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	725
N Ireland	726

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.



Temperature at midday yesterday: a, cloud; b, rain; c, sun.

Saturday: Highest day temp: Heathrow 15.0; Lowest day temp: Exeter 8.0; Lowest night temp: Exeter 4.0; Highest night temp: Exeter 8.0.

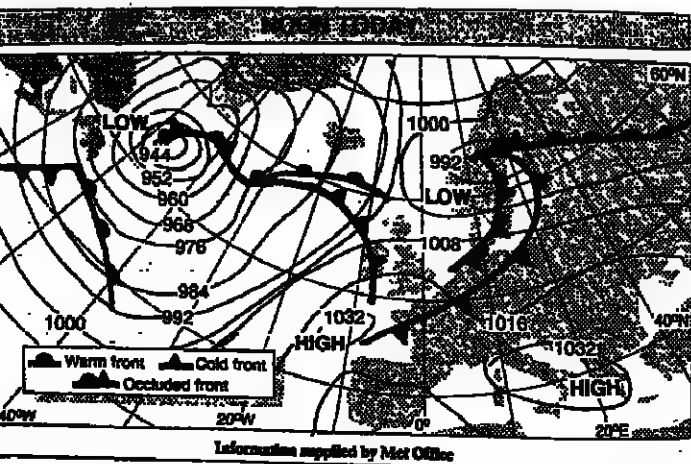
Sunday: Highest day temp: Heathrow 15.0; Lowest day temp: Exeter 8.0; Lowest night temp: Exeter 4.0; Highest night temp: Exeter 8.0.

Today: Highest day temp: Heathrow 15.0; Lowest day temp: Exeter 8.0; Lowest night temp: Exeter 4.0; Highest night temp: Exeter 8.0.

Tomorrow: Highest day temp: Heathrow 15.0; Lowest day temp: Exeter 8.0; Lowest night temp: Exeter 4.0; Highest night temp: Exeter 8.0.

Monday: Highest day temp: Heathrow 15.0; Lowest day temp: Exeter 8.0; Lowest night temp: Exeter 4.0; Highest night temp: Exeter 8.0.

Tide in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.



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Banking on a whale of a tale

Moby Dick is the only home-grown new musical on the West End horizon. Alan Franks considers its prospects

When something fresh and English sets out its stall in the Piccadilly Theatre, it can expect, at the very least, the modest lustre of wishful thinking. *Moby Dick* has already received a fair squirt of the stuff, and from an unbeatable quarter, for the impresario behind this £1.2 million musical is none other than Cameron Mackintosh. Mackintosh's estimation of its chances is a breathtakingly breezy "six weeks or six years."

Melville's confounded whale is precisely the kind of overworked anti-hero to make one nod a rat: now that the Bible is old hat (note the extravagant failure of Stephen Schwartz's *Children of Eden* at the Prince Edward Theatre two years ago), where else can we lay hands on a popular moral epic?

But wait a moment. All is not as it seems at the Piccadilly, and we are coming at Melville from an angle. This is no stage re-make of his allegory, but a musical about the pupils of St Godrick's Academy for Young Ladies putting on a musical based on the classic novel. Without giving the game away, one can say that this device commutes the show's identity from instant dinosaur to, well, mammal.

That is the cleverness of what its creators have done and what, I suspect, gives everyone involved a reasonable hope of making a killing in a recessionary climate. For there, at a stroke, are made available a whole range of echoes and associations: a range that takes in everything from St Trinian's (schoolgirls), via *A Chorus Line* (show about a show) to *The Rocky Horror Show* (androgynous frolics).

The gestation of London's latest musical has been not far short of ten years, and so refutes at least some of the notions about instant hit shows. It runs roughly as follows: actor/writer Robert Longden, co-founder of the Old Red Lion fringe theatre in Islington, is approached by the administrator of Camden Lock in 1983 to

write something for the Capital Jazz Festival. Inspired by the watery setting, he lights on the whale tale and gets his old friend Howard Kaye (lately a member of the a cappella group, The Flying Pickens) to write some songs. The show goes on with a cast of 40, a converted barge and an American football team creating the title role by means of corporate press-ups. It re-surfaces in a former gay roller disco in Clapham, and then again, as *Moby Dick* in Venice, at the Bristol Tramway.

Through these various guises, it remained a creature of the fringe. Then, as they say in fiction about talented guys getting breaks, the phone rang and it was Cameron Mackintosh calling, from the States. But let Longden tell it himself: "In 1990 I was putting together a jazz version of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. This was going to be staged at the Leicester Haymarket, where I had been an actor. Then the theatre had its money taken away and I fell through a trapdoor of depression."

"So I spring-cleaned my office, and came across *Moby Dick*, which I had almost forgotten about. I reyped it, assembled some encouraging reviews from those productions and, one Thursday night, distributed six scripts with demos to the most prominent producers. On Monday a glitterball dropped into my life. I called home for messages and was told Cameron Mackintosh had left a message on my answerphone. I immediately thought it was a cruel hoax."

But the call was no hoax; what followed was the chance to present the show, in effect as a glorified audition, at the converted Old Fire Station in Oxford. The rehearsals were compressed into an "impossible" period, and the show duly opened.

Bang on cue, the impresario steps off Concorde and into the pulsing hall, where he slaps his knees, guffaws and tells Longden's agent to tell Longden that he



New show with a whole range of echoes and associations: St Trinian's meets the *Rocky Horror Show* in a musical treatment (of a musical treatment) of *Moby Dick*

(Mackintosh) is buying the show. The rest is hysteria. "It was on my fortieth birthday that my agent called to say Cameron had taken an option and that we were to open in the West End," says Longden, at last mustering something a little more like a poolswimming voice.

The whole story of *Moby Dick* should be music to the ears of anyone who still believes in the fringe's capacity to leap over the high wall into commercial mainstream, or in the commercial mainstream's ability to spot something in the fringe. Although the paths of Mackintosh and Longden had never crossed (except when Longden had auditioned for *Little Shop of Horrors*), their careers were virtually each other's counterparts in their two sectors. In Mackintosh's case, the producers bore the patina of wealth from the start: *Anything Goes*, *Side by Side by Sondheim*, *Cats*, *Les Misérables*, *Capt Puccini* (one

of his very few flops), *Phantom of the Opera*. In Longden's case, there was a rather more makeshift resource. *Opo Lally Tap*, *Kooneywackaboy*, *Suck It and See*, *Out to Lunch*, *Yae Hah!*

"All shows have to win their spurs themselves," Longden reflects. "There are actually disadvantages in having Cameron involved. I mean that his huge reputation means that our little show might get it in the neck for no apparent reason. People assume that he's Mr Midas, but the reason he does well is that he's good at inspiring you to do it properly. He'll always say if there's something he's not sure of. He can't necessarily tell you how to put it right, but he points the finger, and everyone bumbles around trying to fix the problem."

These observations are taking place in the auditorium of the Piccadilly. It looks as though a school has taken over the building, which is the whole idea. Not far away in the West End,

high in a spartan building full of rehearsal rooms, the music is being put together part by part, voice by voice, and then slice by slice. You brace your ears against the possibility of musical insult: no form of noise insults the listener more rudely than an unspecialised new score which acts as though it were timeless and unforgettable. The insult doesn't come, which is a blessed relief. This is not ersatz "hit creation"; nor, thank God, is it poor man's Bacharach; nor does it sound the kind of stuff that is planning to convince us by force of wattage. No, this is pop music. English pop music, driving but melodic, with well made choral harmonies. It sounds honest.

You never can tell, even if you are Cameron Mackintosh. "This is the first musical comedy in London for I don't know how long," he says, "apart from those revivals of *Me and My Girl* or *42nd Street*. In the 1950s, the Americans excelled at them, with things like *Little Me* and *How to*

Succeed in Business. But in the past 20 years, everything seems to have got a little serious."

Still less can you tell, if you are Robert Longden. Towards the end of a rehearsal session I ask him "How does it feel?" After all, he could become handsomely rich with this. It would be a midlife vindication, a story such as you get in musicals.

"If I ever made money," he says eventually, "I would build a grand dinner theatre for new shows to be presented at midnight. At the moment there aren't enough producers, as opposed to reproducers: not enough people prepared to take a gamble. Yes, that's what I'd do. Two-week runs on a shoestring. It would give the writers a marvelous opportunity to look at their material and see if it works."

Two-week runs on a shoestring. This is no time to talk of such things.

● *Moby Dick* is in preview at the Piccadilly Theatre (071-867 1118), and opens on March 11

ARTS BRIEF

Suits pressed

WHETHER the film *Coming to America* is any good or not, the lawyers love it. Lessine Ousseni, who styles himself Prince Johnny Ossen-Bello, is suing Paramount Pictures on the grounds that the film was based on his story. That makes seven separate law-suits brought against the picture by various parties. The writer Art Buchwald recently sustained a claim that he was the original author of the screen story. Prince Johnny's case is currently somewhat handicapped: he was arrested a fortnight ago on a visa violation charge.

Late flourish

SIR Michael Tippett has just turned 87, and still the music keeps on coming. The world premiere of his Fifth String Quartet has been announced for May 9, at the opening concert of the Sheffield Chamber Music Festival, which has an English-music theme this year. Playing the work will be the Lindsay Quartet, which runs the annual two-week event.

Richly romantic

ANOTHER literary prize is announced. An annual Catherine Cookson Fiction Prize has been launched by Transworld Publishers, with a £10,000 publishing contract on offer for the winning novel, which must be unpublished so far. The organisers are looking for the "strong characterisation, authentic background and storytelling ability which are the hallmarks of Catherine Cookson's work". Since Cookson's sales now exceed 40 million copies, there should be no shortage of imitators.

Last chance...

AS USUAL, Eric Clapton has spent most of February ensconced at the Albert Hall in London with a crack team of musicians. Now in his late forties, Clapton has won sympathy for his dignified composure in the first concert since the death of his son, a tragedy which he marks in performance with two new songs, "Tears in Heaven" and "Circus Left Town". He returns in the summer for two Wembley Stadium gigs with Elton John, but until then closes the current round of engagements with shows at SECC, Glasgow (041-248 3000) on March 2 and 3.

Bitterness on the beach

THEATRE

The Foursome Baron's Court

TED WHITEHEAD is now an accomplished writer of television serials, with two adaptations from Fay Weldon novels to his recent credit. But in 1971 it was as an unknown dramatist that his scorching play set the torch to sentimental notions of teenage romance. The puritan disgust his young men feel for their girls reaches a Strindbergian ferocity in the tirade against make-up, except that Strindberg would have given victory to the women.

To a sand dune on the Lancashire coast somewhere opposite New Brighton his two young lions bring the teenage girls they have picked up at a pub the night before, anticipating a day of sunbathing and sex. But the girls have come without bathing costumes. For most of the hot day they sit fully clothed, occasionally dabbing a dainty spot of suntan oil onto their stockings, sweating under layers of clothing and cosmetics.

Dialogue that begins with fairly good natured banter soon enters that problem time when male and female are out of emotional synch. Crude egging on becomes rage, allowing the underlying nausea to flood into the open. The play is impressively mature for a first

work and the rhythm is assured.

In this pub basement theatre the dune is suggested by a sloping square of hessian sprinkled with a few bucketfuls of sand, and the low black ceiling could hardly look less like a brilliant summer sky. This oddity concentrates attention even more upon the players.

Max Jacobson-Gonzalez's production manages well the scenes of tenderness where Oliver Young and Juliet Cowan edge delicately and touchingly towards the fringe of friendship; the performances here hold out the possibility of a happy development that is continued when Adam Warren and Annie Cowan join them for a brief scene of shared joy imitating the sirens of passing ships.

Bad Girl Old Red Lion

FIVE years ago child abuse was a subject that, out of squeamishness or ignorance, dramatists almost entirely shunned. Now anybody who writes about it risks being accused of exploiting a modish concern: the more so if, like Kay Trainor, she has consciously drawn on the detective thriller. Did Daddy do it? Didn't Daddy do it? The very questions have a glowing, prurient ring.

But there is nothing salacious about *Bad Girl*. If Trainor has a fault, it may be that she is not slick enough. In the first half, her play lacks the tension one asso-

ciates either with detective thrillers or the television serials on which she apparently cut her creative teeth. Anna Birch's direction could profitably have sharpened a text of whose moral seriousness there can, however, be no doubt.

Sandy McDade is Moira, a young painter who comes to unsettle her elder sister's staid psyche with ugly revelations and troubling demands. Somehow she has managed to convince herself that their father is the root cause of her taste for rough sex. But so often and unambiguously does Tricia Kelly's Frances dismiss the idea that we, too, begin to think it attention-getting neurosis. Yet why does she break into racking

sobs after Moira has presented her with a portrait of herself on her wedding day?



Making up: Juliet Cowan and Annie Cowan

JEREMY KINGSTON

Beautiful in the extreme

CONCERT

CBSO/Rattle Symphony Hall, Birmingham

SIMON RATTLE's survey of the second decade of the century has begun with a concert marvellously worthy of the imaginative "Towards the Millennium" festival. This instalment opened with Berg's gloriously scored Three Orchestral Pieces, Op 6. The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra illuminated the work's garish colours almost cockily, as if giving notice of something even better to follow.

Even so, nobody had any right to expect the performance of Mahler's Tenth Symphony that Rattle then conducted. In some senses, the Tenth is the ultimate in late Romantic symphonies, though with its strange little "Purgatorium" movement — a no man's land at its centre — and those two obsessive, distorted Scherzos, it stretches the form way beyond 19th-century limits.

Moreover, it deals in chaos. Often the harmonic logic disintegrates, and we stare into some terrible abyss. Does the symphony foretell our century's self-destructive course? Rattle's rapt involve-

ment made it difficult to believe that any human being (or rather, two human beings, since we were listening to Deryck Cooke's 1974 completion) could be capable of writing with such complete insight into the psyche of our species. This performance touched every extreme.

In Symphony Hall's most natural acoustic setting (that is, with the echo chambers safely closed off) this complex score's detail was heard with wondrous clarity. Even the harp made its presence felt without undue effort from its player or his colleagues. Only the occasional rude blast from the horns in one or two places, where something less assertive might have sufficed, jarred where no jarring was needed. One was undisturbed by the odd miscalculation in intonation.

Whenever we were meant to be shocked, however, we were shocked — at the deathly thuds of the great bass drum at the beginning of the finale, for instance, or at the supernaturally sustained high notes of overlapping trumpets. There were subtler beauties too, none more so than the viola section's long, isolated melody at the beginning. In the end one could only marvel at the sheer, appalling beauty of it all.

STEPHEN PETTIT

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Black and white culture in strips

The South African censors have taken a blue pen to adult comic books. Yet many of these 'undesirable' publications



contain no pornography or violence, but messages of social awareness. Arthur Goldstuck reports from the latest cultural battleground in a society trying to cope with change

On January 9 this year, the vice squad of the South African Police invented a new crime. Officers raided Fantamania, a specialist science fiction bookshop in Johannesburg, and confiscated ten graphic novels — highbrow comic books aimed at adult readers. Paul Suntop, the owner, was told that the comics were indecent and would be forwarded to the authorities to consider prosecution.

The police also said the comics would be forwarded to the Directorate of Publications — the state censor board. Two weeks ago, the censor said about the first of the ten comics: "There can be little doubt that this publication will transgress the tolerance of the reasonable reader, who will regard this as blatantly shameful and an intrusion upon the human body as well as the sex act."

South Africans have grown used to such judgments in the state's endless war on pornography. But this time, the censors went too far: this was not pornography; it was a quality comic book. They had banned *Love and Rockets*, an award-winning comic book created by Jaime and Gilbert Hernandez. Hispanic American brothers. In ten years, the brothers have grown from the *enfants terribles* of commercial comics into elders of the popular culture tribe.

Their rough-edged Latin American minimalist, stylised black and white comic strips have been widely described as a graphic equivalent to the fabulism of Gabriel Garcia Marquez, the Nobel laureate. But the censors made it clear they did not understand the graphics, the streetwise language or the plots. "It is difficult to classify this publication as there

appears to be very little humour," their judgment added. In the next week, the censors passed similar judgments on the rest of the confiscated works, including *From Hell* by Alan Moore, a leading British comics writer, and five graphic novels by Milo Manara, a Spanish artist.

An appeal against the decisions is likely. But regardless of its outcome, the police and the censors have helped turn comics into a new moral battleground, sharing it with a hard core of educators and parents who regard them as a bad influence. In an evolving South African society, however, comic books have taken on a dramatic new role: that of highlighting literacy training, AIDS and environmental awareness, and in promoting democratic political processes.

Inspired by first world graphic novels and third world literacy programmes, an independent group of artists and writers has established The Storyteller Group, the first South African publishing house to produce original comics. As the name suggests, members see themselves in a role once occupied by transmitters of traditional oral folklore. But the themes they tackle are hardly traditional.

The first comic books are aimed at AIDS awareness, entitled *Love and AIDS*; and environmental action — *River of Our Dreams*. The emphasis is on education.

Peter Esterhuysen, one of the core Storyteller members, says: "You cannot believe the people who wash up on our doorstep, either to see whether they can commission a comic book, or asking us to provide consultancy on broader educational issues."

The state health department recently contacted The Storytellers

to ask whether they would be interested in an AIDS programme for schools. Today, Mr Esterhuysen and his partners will meet environmental affairs department officials to discuss the use of comics in promoting environmentalism.

Surprisingly, contact with state authorities has had no negative impact on their acceptance in township circles and among liberation movements. "The African National Congress has come to us on numerous occasions to explore options," Mr Esterhuysen says. "We've met state education departments, and with alternative township education structures such as the National Education Crisis Committee."

This is a result both of a high level of political integrity, and of the relevance of Storyteller comics. "People who maybe a couple of years ago were very opposed to the

idea of comics have done an about-face. Public libraries are buying our comics. One of our titles was part of an English exam set by the Independent Examinations Board for private schools."

Such respectability does not come from producing superhero comics. The contents of some Storyteller products include a hard dose of reality and calls to communal action. Not quite propaganda, but also not everybody's idea of entertainment either.

In 1990, the group was commissioned by the Soweto Civic Association, a group elected in opposition to the state-sanctioned Soweto City Council, to create a comic book. It had to explain to Soweto residents a breakthrough the SCA had made in negotiations with the Transvaal Provincial Administration, which controls town-

ships in the province, and with Eskom, the state monopoly supplier of electricity. Eskom had installed electricity in most of Soweto by 1986, but with a demand that residents pay off a loan covering installation. In June 1986, the SCA had called a rent and services payments boycott. It became the most successful rent boycott in South African history, ending in September 1990, only when the TPA and Eskom agreed to SCA demands.

The brokers of the accord, Planact, an activist organisation working at bringing local authorities together, were worried. How could they make a convincing case for the accord in an environment where people had not paid rent and service charges for many years, and had developed "a culture of not paying"? The Storytellers were called in, and the result was *Voice of the*



Education or titillation? Extracts from *Love and Rockets*, which South Africa's censors claim is an undesirable publication

the Red Cross, the comic has been translated into five languages.

Mr Esterhuysen says: "We had to do all the translations before we could even tackle the rough artwork, because of variations in voice bubble sizes. What might be colloquially phrased in four words in English, might need ten words in another language. The idea was to create a critical understanding of the violence and to try to disseminate a code of conduct to try to alleviate violence. It's something they've tried to do in other countries where there have been conflicts, such as Mozambique."

Members of Storyteller are aware of suggestions that they produce propaganda. Mr Esterhuysen says: "We're being brought in in a sense to propagandise, but we can use the medium to allude to the complexities of what we're espousing. Characters give different points of view and there's less of an attempt to squash voices to make up one unified message."

"That's where I believe comics are crucial to South Africa right now, given the culture of intolerance in which we've grown up." Some of the comics have had unexpected levels of acceptance and surprising consequences.

The *Love and AIDS* comic has been so popular that more than 500,000 copies have been distributed. *River of Our Dreams* has reached the 320,000 mark — and has transformed English-language education in rural areas.

"To us, the most important thing about *River* is that it's put comics on the educational agenda," Mr Esterhuysen says. Anglo-American (South Africa's largest corporation) has funded a full-time Storyteller research position to study the impact of the comics.

There is little likelihood that the state censors will be included in the education progress. But the way the Storytellers see it, the next generation of South African law-makers will have grown up with comics that do not depend on action and humour for their existence or acceptance.

When that happens, South Africans will not only have become more literate, but also more tolerant.

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INSIDE STRATHCLYDE

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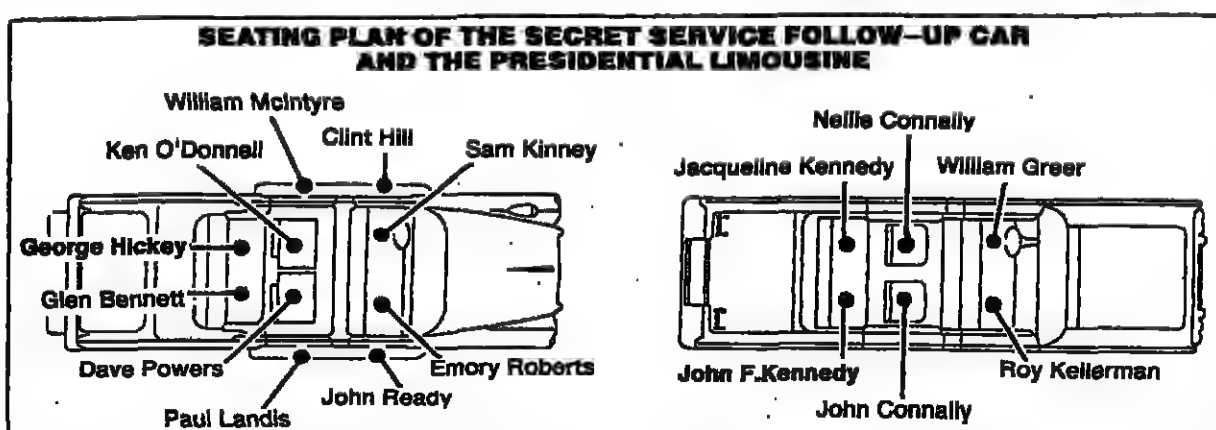
Kennedy: the publisher's case

The American publisher of *Mortal Error* (see Page 1) explains his support for Howard Donahue's theory

Donahue's ballistic argument is the strongest yet put forward, and it accounts for all the essential data accounted for by the government theories plus a good deal more. More than that, his reconstruction explains many details from Dallas that no one has otherwise explained.

For those who wonder what Lee Harvey Oswald might have had in mind when he declared he was just a "patsy", Donahue's theory allows an answer that does not entail the likes of a New Orleans conspiracy (such as the one depicted in Oliver Stone's *JFK*): Oswald, thinking himself to be a lone gunman, nevertheless saw Kennedy killed by a shot he knew he did not fire. But he was the only one arrested. He did not know how they did it, but he was convinced, wrongly, that somehow he had been used.

Through all the examination of the technical factors at Dallas, we knew that we had not touched on the aspect of Donahue's thesis that would excite the greater scepticism: There were nine other people in that follow-up car. Why had none of them ever said anything? Did Donahue or Menninger ever ask them? Yes, they did. Or tried to. As the potential publishers, we were intensely concerned about the matters that were not technical but human. We had to get our questions



straight. What did the others around Hickey know? What did Hickey know?

We read the statements of in the Warren Commission Report. The statements are startling in their variety of eye and ear witness accounts. The agents testify to hearing different numbers of shots, from different directions. Dealey Plaza was an echo chamber, reflecting cheering crowds, motorcycles, shots and cries of horror. To this was added the mind-scrambling shock of seeing the president being shot.

Could the explosive sound of an AR-15 possibly go off within a few feet of these men and they not register it, or at any rate, believe it came from elsewhere? The strict answer is yes, it is possible. Since starting our investigation, we have heard numerous accounts of shooting experiences that corroborate that possibility.

More than that, we have heard two first-person accounts from people who themselves discharged a rifle and were unaware of it. Hickey himself might have, in that most head-jangling moment of his life fired his

gun and never realised it. What the mind registers in a moment of such utter extremity is unpredictable. There were eye witnesses along Elm Street who claimed they heard a gunshot sound that originated right there in the Plaza. But others said no, it was from the grassy knoll. There were two shots, three shots, four shots. They all

consider the next possibility: that at least some others in the follow-up car were aware that the AR-15 went off. If they were aware, where did they think the shot went? In Donahue's reconstruction, Hickey, jumping to his feet on the soft seat-cushion of a moving car, tipped backward while clutching the AR-15. The chance of his accidental

seem equally small, he says of course they do — until you consider the evidence. First, he points out, he didn't approach his investigation with any idea that it would lead to the AR-15. He considered the data, and the data pointed him to the follow-up car. You cannot convince any experienced shooter — and certainly not one who as a firearms expert has regularly testified in court about bizarre coincidences that have produced gunshot fatalities, as Donahue has — that the apparent unlikelihood of the result of an accidental shot should be enough to persuade him it didn't happen. If another agent knew the AR-15 went off, and he thought it went skyward, just possibly he would judge it an irrelevant but potential nasty complication to any subsequent investigation, and thus not worth mentioning. We can know none of this — if anyone knew, who that anyone might be and what went through his mind.

Donahue and Menninger tried to know. A large part of *Mortal Error* recounts their efforts to contact the other car occupants, and, repeatedly,

George Hickey. Before making the final decision to publish, we felt we had to make our own efforts. On November 1, 1991 we wrote to George Hickey. We said that we were going to publish. We told him that the book was premised on Donahue's contention that the behaviour of the bullet in the president's skull was much more consistent with that of a bullet fired from an AR-15 rifle than from a Mannlicher-Carcano rifle such as the one used by Oswald and on an analysis of the trajectory of the bullet. We told Hickey that Donahue was by no means accusing him of any wrongdoing. We emphasized Donahue's belief that the president would in all likelihood have died from the wound caused by one of Oswald's shots even if the bullet in question had not hit the president in the head. We urged Hickey to put forward his side of the story. He did not respond.

We do not unanimously feel that Donahue has proved his AR-15 case beyond a shadow of a doubt. His conviction is strong but we cannot say his argument absolutely precludes the possibility that he is wrong. Our own search was begun in an effort to uncover anything that might disqualify that argument. We now feel that Donahue's command of and reasoning about the hard facts of Dealey Plaza are the strongest that we have seen, and if we cannot be certain it may be because of a natural reluctance to concede that such bad luck, so unlikely and chaotic an accident, can prevail in this world. But to disbelieve solely because it was a long shot is its own species of irrationality.

THOMAS MCCORMACK

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EDUCATION

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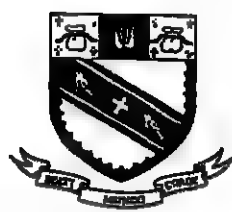
POSTS

LANSING
THE HEADSHIP

of Lansing College becomes vacant in September 1993
on the retirement of Mr Jim Woodhouse.

Lansing, the senior school of the Woodard Corporation, is an independent boarding school for boys aged 13-18 and Sixth Form girls in West Sussex.

In addition to educational responsibilities, the post requires excellent leadership and administrative skills. Applicants must be graduates and communicant members of the Church of England.



Further details from: Mr A. C. Holmes,
Moores Rowland, PO Box 1034, Nile Street, Brighton BN1 1JB

Applications with cv and names of three referees by Monday, 23 March, please.



King's College London

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Appointment of Lecturers in the School of Law

The School of Law at King's College London has a number of vacancies for the position of Lecturer. The School has teaching needs in Trusts, Property, Tort and other core subject areas (excluding Public Law).

The appointments will primarily be on the Lecturer Grade A scale (£14,902 - £19,869 including London Allowance). Re-imbursement of relocation costs will be considered.

Further particulars of the posts may be obtained from Miss Grace Alleyne on 071-873 2273. Completed applications, including a full CV and the names and addresses of 3 referees, should be sent to Miss Grace Alleyne, School of Law, King's College London, Strand, WC2R 2LS. Please quote reference AL001 with your enquiry and application.

The closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 20 March 1992.

Equality of employment opportunity in College policy

THE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN OFFICE

Applications are invited for the post of Administrative Assistant in the Development Campaign Office. Duties will include the servicing of the University's Board of Patrons, Board of Trustees and the various Flagship Project Task Forces, and the co-ordination of activities arising from fundraising and sponsorship activities.

The post offers an opportunity to gain experience in a rapidly developing area of the University's business activities.

Candidates must, in addition to sound administrative skills, possess a high level of communication and presentation skills commensurate with being able to liaise with senior officers of the University and high level external contacts.

Salary within £12,129 - £14,359 pa, according to qualifications and experience.

Informal enquiries to Mrs Gill Monaghan (0742 765555 ext 4114).

Further details from Director of Personnel Services, The University, PO Box 594, Fifth Court, Western Bank, Sheffield S10 2UV (ext 4144), to whom applications, including a CV and the names/addresses of three referees (three copies of all documents), should be sent by 20 March 1992. Ref: R120/A.

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BUTE HOUSE

Headship

FORMERLY ST. PAUL'S GIRLS' PREPARATORY SCHOOL, LUXEMBURG GARDENS, LONDON W6.

The Governors of Butte House Preparatory School for Girls invite applications for the above post which becomes vacant on the retirement of Miss J Lee in July 1993.

Details of the post and method of application may be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors, Mercers' Hall, Ironmonger Lane, London EC2V 8HE.



WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY

The World Maritime University (WMU) is established under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization, a specialized agency of the United Nations. Located in Malmö, Sweden, WMU has a student population of 200 - primarily from developing countries - engaged in full-time specialized maritime studies leading to the award of M.Sc. The working language of the University is English.

LIBRARIAN

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for appointment to the position of Librarian. The University Library comprises some 8,000 volumes and 270 periodicals.

The Librarian is responsible to the Vice-Rector for all University library operations including collection development, library services and information systems, budgeting and planning, staff supervision, acquisition and processing of new materials, user education and training of library staff.

The successful candidate will have an appropriate degree and several years of professional experience in an academic or special library, preferably including a maritime collection. Familiarity with library automation, fluency in the English language and demonstrated leadership skills will be prerequisites for the position. Experience, and ability to work in an international organization in a multicultural setting would be an advantage.

The appointment will be on a two-year fixed term contract basis, commencing in May 1992, or as soon thereafter as the successful candidate is available. Annual salary, which is exempt from Swedish taxation, will be dependent on qualifications and experience but will be on a scale of USD 38,568 - by annual increments of 3% - to USD 48,864. In addition an amount equivalent to two months salary will be placed in a Provident Fund annually.

Applications must be received by 20 March 1992 and should be addressed to the Personnel Officer, World Maritime University, P.O. Box 500, S-201 24 Malmö, Sweden from whom further information on conditions of service may be obtained. Queries on the duties and responsibilities of the position may be directed to the Rector, Tel: +46 40 336300.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS



REGISTRAR AND SECRETARY

The University is seeking to appoint a Registrar & Secretary to succeed Mr E Newcomb who has been appointed Registrar of the University of Leeds.

The Registrar & Secretary is the chief administrative officer under the Vice-Chancellor and heads a unitary system of administration.

Further particulars are available from Professor Martin Harris, Vice-Chancellor of the University, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex CO4 3SQ, to whom applications should be sent by 20 March 1992.

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

FACULTY OF LAW

LECTURESHIPS IN LAW

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates in any field of Law. Salary on the Lecturer scale (£12860 - £23739) starting salary depending on age, qualifications and experience.

For further details telephone Bristol 256450 or write to the Personnel Office (EO), Senate House, University of Bristol, Bristol BS8 1TH, quoting reference 165, to whom applications, including curriculum vitae (two copies) and the names and addresses of three referees, should be sent. Closing date 23rd March 1992.

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Further particulars can be
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Administrative Secretary,
Faculty of Law, The Old
Syndics Building, Mill Lane,
Cambridge CB2 1RQ to whom
applications, a CV and the
names of two referees should be
sent by 17 March 1992.
The University follows an
equal opportunities policy.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

Chair in Sociology

Applications are invited for the established Chair in Sociology, which has become vacant on the retirement of Professor John H. Smith. The Chair, in the Department of Sociology and Social Policy, will be held with effect from 1 January 1993, or as soon as can be arranged thereafter.

The University is seeking to appoint a candidate with a record of outstanding achievement in research and scholarship. The person appointed will be expected to provide academic leadership in the discipline and to play a leading role in developing the Department's Programme of research and publication, as well as making a full contribution to the Department's undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and research activities.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Director of Personnel Services, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton, SO9 5NH, telephone 0703 592353 to whom applications (10 copies from UK applicants, 1 from overseas applicants) including a full curriculum vitae and details of three referees should be sent by 10 April 1992. Please quote reference P/197/Times.

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HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY

LECTURESHIP IN ACTUARIAL MATHEMATICS

Applications are invited from candidates with research interests in actuarial mathematics for a permanent lectureship in the Department of Actuarial Mathematics and Statistics. The successful applicant will be expected to contribute to the teaching and research activities of the Department, which currently has six actuaries and nine statisticians on its staff.

Preference will be given to applicants who are Fellows of the Faculty of Actuaries or of the Institute of Actuaries, but serious consideration will be given to well-qualified graduates in Mathematics or Statistics, who have made significant progress in the professional actuarial examinations.

It is anticipated that the person appointed will have opportunities for consultancy work (e.g. relating to actuarial or statistical education) which should produce significant income in addition to the basic salary.

Salary is on scale £12,860-£23,739 per annum (under review) with starting point according to age, experience and qualifications. Anticipated starting date to be 1st September 1992.

Persons who wish to discuss the appointment informally and confidentially should telephone the Department (031-451 3202) and speak to Professor J J McCulloch.

Please write (not 'phone) for an application form and Further Particulars to the Personnel Office, Heriot-Watt University, Riccarton, Edinburgh EH14 4AS quoting ref no 4/92/ Closing date for receipt of applications is 10th April.

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DEPARTMENT OF MODERN HISTORY

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Interested applicants should first contact Professor John Goo, Department of Modern History, University of St Andrews, St Andrews, Fife KY16 9AL. Applications should be received in the Department by 10 April 1992. There are no application forms. Candidates should supply a letter of application together with a CV and statement of the proposed field of research.

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The election is held to present to an election to the Wilde Readership in Mental Philosophy with effect from 1 October 1992 or such later date as may be arranged. The stipend of the reader will be on a scale which is at present £24,922 to £28,165 per annum. Under the terms of the deed governing the readership Mental Philosophy is taken to mean the theoretical and conceptual study of the human mind; this is to be interpreted as philosophy of mind and the computational, artificial intelligence and cognitive science approaches to the structure of the mind; one of the important roles of the reader is seen as bringing theoretical and empirical studies of the mind.

A non-stipendiary fellowship at Corpus Christi College may be available to the person elected to the readership. Applications (two copies, or one from overseas candidates), stating three referees, should be received not later than 20 April 1992 by the Registrar, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JD, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

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The University invites applications for appointment to the newly created Watson, Farley & Williams Chair of Banking Law.

Applications, which should include the names, addresses and if possible telephone numbers, of three referees, should be sent to the Personnel Director, University of Bristol, Senate House, Tyndall Avenue, Bristol BS8 1TH. Tel: 0272-303157, Fax 0272-251424 from whom further particulars may be obtained. Closing date 16 April 1992. Please quote reference JHTA.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

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GORDON MILBURN JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Applications are invited for the above research fellowship, in the field of the theological or philosophical study of religion and religious experience, from graduates with some experience of research. The Fellowship, which carries an initial stipend of £10,100 per annum rising by £600 in each subsequent year, will be held for three years with effect from 1 October 1992 and will be held in association with a Junior Research Fellowship at Oriel College. Further details may be obtained from the Secretary (Mrs G.V. Tomlin), Board of the Faculty of Theology, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JD.

Applications, including a full curriculum vitae and a summary not exceeding 300 words of the proposed research, (eight copies of each) together with the names of three referees, should be sent not later than 3 April 1992 to the College Secretary, Oriel College, Oxford, OX1 2EW. Candidates are asked to arrange for their referees to send their references to the College Secretary by the closing date.

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Further details and application forms, returnable not later than 24 March, from the Personnel Office, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD (tel 0602 484848 ext 2696). Ref No 1514.

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ministers

League tables bring divisions

The number of students may be doubling, but the details of the Universities Funding Council's latest allocations are having serious consequences, Matthew d'Ancona reports

Last week, the Universities Funding Council, or UFC, published its annual allocations in greater detail than ever before, indicating to the universities the paths that their paymasters have mapped out for them. The once opaque complexities of funding have become clear, the winners and losers plain to see. Tea leaves have been replaced by league tables.

The overall generosity of this year's settlement — £1,392 million for 1992-93, compared with £1,275 million in 1991-2, all institutions receiving grant increases of at least 3 per cent — does not seem to be in dispute. It shows the government is serious in its intention to see the number of students doubled by the early years of the next century.

There were also 18,000 extra funded student places for universities which had attracted high numbers of fees-only students — those students recruited without funding from the UFC.

However, with this generosity came structural change. Last week's announcement appeared to accelerate the division of universities into research and teaching institutions. Keele, for example, was awarded a 32.2 per cent increase for its teaching programme, while its research funding rose by less than 3 per cent.

On the other side of the fence, an elite corps of research-dominated universities seems to be emerging,

such that 80 per cent of all funds for research in higher education has now shifted to ten institutions.

Oxford and Cambridge universities, Imperial College, London, and the London Business School were all awarded increases in research resources of more than 18 per cent, but none received an increase in teaching funds above the level of inflation. Only Essex featured in the top six of both the teaching and research rankings.

But does this approach adequately reflect the nuances of performance in higher education? Even successful bidders are concerned that this year's tables will tend to stereotype universities as teaching fish or research fowl on the basis of a three-year-old evaluation of research performance.

Keele University despite its massive windfall, is unhappy about the "teaching university" label that has been applied to it. David Johns, the vice-chancellor of Bradford University, likens the UFC's research allocations to gambling on the pools. "Nothing should be set in stone," he says. "The awards were largely determined by judgmental rankings made several years ago, and to a certain extent the die was cast then. But in June, we will be submitting for a new research exercise."

The new selectivity tests will take slightly greater account of success in applied research, but the bias in favour of pure and strategic pro-

jects will remain. Some universities complain that this amounts to academic discrimination. Brunel's total research income from all sources showed an increase of 10 per cent last year, including a rise in European Commission grant income of more than 100 per cent. Yet its lowly position in the UFC table will contribute to its categorisation as a teaching-dominated university. A common objection, therefore, is that the tables undermine confidence in otherwise healthy institutions.

Gordon Beveridge, the vice-chancellor of Queen's University, Belfast, says that the ranking system is misleading and destructive. "Any concept of a league table is detrimental to universities. Research ratings are valid only for subject areas covered and should not be averaged to give a university 'mark'. They do not take into account excellent research contracts and contracts obtained from non-public sources — Queen's has increased these by more than 30 per cent in the last year."

Likewise, Loughborough points out that more than 40 per cent of its research funding comes from sources other than the UFC, and this is not reflected in its tabulation. Yet the new tables are certain to become a standard guide to university performance, consumed by prospective students and bureaucrats alike.

The implications of the new system for teaching have also



Accounting for nuances of performance: UFC tables have divided universities

caused disquiet. Universities are being encouraged to take on fees-only students, in the hope of attracting high teaching awards and bonus funded student places, a stop-go funding method which is arguably hostile to stable development.

Sir Michael Thompson, the vice-chancellor of Birmingham, last week raised the spectre of

"expansion on the cheap" and the slow loss in status of the British bachelor's degree.

Echoing doubts already expressed by the Association of University Teachers, Professor John predicts that some universities will follow the lead of this year's big winners and pursue "lemon-like, suicidal growth", assuming ever greater teaching

responsibilities, without the necessary resources for additional staff or teaching facilities.

But he admits that next year he will recommend a 10 per cent growth in student numbers to his own senate. In case Bradford's research allocation is again below par, Universities cannot afford to fall behind in both tables.

The advantage of the new fund-

ing method is that it will make public the criteria used to allocate resources as the new market in higher education takes shape. The danger, however, is that it will become a self-fulfilling prophecy, ensuring a grim future for a few research-strong universities and committing the rest to a miserable cycle of under-funded expansion.

GRANTS 1992-3

TEACHING	% change	RESEARCH	% change
Keele	32.2	LBS	27.6
Swansea	25.8	Imperial college	19.9
Essex	25.5	Cambridge	18.9
St David's	23.2	Oxford	18.2
Dundee	20.6	Edinburgh	17.0
Stirling	19.7	Warwick	16.8
Bangor	18.2	Essex	16.8
Strathclyde	16.8	Bristol	15.4
Salford	15.3	East Anglia	14.5
City	14.6	Glasgow	13.9
Heriot-Watt	14.4	London (total)	13.7
Sussex	14.0	York	13.7
Brunel	13.8	MBS	13.4
Cardiff	13.7	Liverpool	12.5
Liverpool	13.1	City	12.5
Leicester	12.4	Newcastle	12.4
Newcastle	12.3	Dundee	12.1
Leeds	12.2	Exeter	11.7
Loughborough	12.1	Nottingham	11.6
Aberdeen	11.9	Durham	11.6
Durham	11.5	Lancaster	10.9
Belfast	10.6	Ulster	10.5
Ulster	10.4	Sheffield	10.5
Glasgow	10.1	Southampton	10.2
Nottingham	8.9	St Andrews	10.0
Nottingham	8.5	Surrey	9.7
Kent	8.0	Sussex	9.7
Ulster	7.8	Manchester (total)	9.2
Bradford	6.5	Liverpool	9.2
Exeter	6.3	Reading	8.4
London (total)	5.1	Stirling	9.0
Reading	8.0	UWCM	8.8
Edinburgh	5.9	Aberystwyth	8.8
Lancaster	5.3	Bath	8.8
Surrey	5.2	Leeds	8.7
Birmingham	5.1	Aberdeen	8.1
St Andrews	5.1	Kent	8.1
Manchester (total)	4.8	Reading	8.1
Aberystwyth	4.3	Heriot-Watt	8.4
Bristol	4.0	Strathclyde	8.4
East Anglia	3.9	Swansea	4.7
Oxford	3.8	Hull	4.3
Sheffield	3.6	Bangor	3.8
Warwick	3.5	Loughborough	3.8
LBS	3.3	Bradford	3.0
Imperial College	3.2	Keele	2.5
Southampton	3.2	Aston	2.0
Bath	3.0	Cardiff	1.9
York	2.9	St David's	1.1
Cambridge	2.7	Salford	0.8
Aston	2.6	Belfast	-0.3
UWCM	0.4	Brunel	-3.0
MBS	-2.5	Ulster	-12.1

*Including £87 million given to science research distributed through research councils, not the UFC
Source: Universities Funding Council

Trust parents and get the schools right

With education reforms not working, the solutions could include making all schools fee-paying

The main theme of the government's education policies is to raise standards and use resources better by extending the range of schools available to parents and improving their chances of getting the school of their choice. Admirable though these aims may be, they are unlikely to succeed in spite of a battery of recent reforms.

These include basing the financing of schools on the number of pupils they enrol. Schools that respond to parents' wishes, the argument runs, will flourish: those that do not will pay the price. Schools can now become grant-maintained, financed directly by the government. Local authorities can no longer restrict the intake into schools on "planning" grounds. A new kind of school has been created, the City Technology College (CTC), financed by employers and the government, which offers a distinctive technological education.

None of these measures, however, goes right to the heart of the problem. How do we create a system in which all parents, not only the well off, are genuinely empowered to obtain the education they want for their children?

Schools that opt out often do so to preserve their existing character. Schools that fill up to their capacity or expand may destroy the very character that made them effective and popular in the first place.

There are only 15 CTCs against a total of about 4,000 maintained secondary schools, the overwhelming number of which are comprehensive. The government's reforms will not, of themselves, empower parents to exercise choice. There are two difficulties.

First, the way the education system is financed assumes

that the number of school places and the demand for them correspond. Pressure is put on local government by central government to take "surplus" places out of use through closure or amalgamation. Such measures, however, by their very nature, reduce variety and choice.

There is no prospect of new kinds of school, a junior CTC or a Muslim school, for example, emerging where there is a surplus of places. The market the government is trying to create

cannot exist. In a true market, the customer can take business elsewhere. This is not going to happen. The danger is that the school will choose the parent, not the parent the school, the reverse of the government's intentions.

Second, the eventual decision whether a school should open, close or change its character belongs to the secretary of state. The legal processes involved are complicated and hostile to change. In short, the system

discourages change of the kind and on the scale the government wishes to see.

There are further difficulties with the government's approach. How are we to prevent children from being caught up in the free-fall of a failing school, for no other reason than that they happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time? Where do the children of parents surrounded by poor or oversubscribed schools go? What does the government mean precisely when it talks about variety? Where does it stand on the issue of selection? What exactly are the "technological schools" now being talked about?

If government policies are to succeed, certain steps must be taken. First, all schools should be financed on a fee-paying basis. The new method of school budgeting paves the way for this. The amount of money the government takes from the public for educational purposes should be returned to parents under tax credit arrangements, empowering them to pay for or contribute to the education they wish for their children.

At a stroke, the damaging distinction between private and public education would be removed. Such a system would also be fairer.

It is not true that under the present arrangements all children have the same amount spent on them. A glance at any league table of local authorities' spending reveals unacceptably wide differences.

Second, the present surplus of places should be treated as an asset, not a liability. Responsibility for opening, closing and changing the character of schools should be

put in the hands of parents, institutions and other promoters, subject to certain conditions relating to, for example, the National Curriculum, the qualifications of teachers, management and building regulations. The secretary of state would see that such criteria are met.

In this way the "demand-led" system after which the government hankers would become a reality.

Failing schools would be

identified quickly through information about performance that all schools must now give. Inspectors should, perhaps, be given powers to close those schools at risk.

The position of head-teachers should be strengthened in relation to that of governing bodies, but placed on a time-limited contractual footing.

The government needs to come clean about the kinds of

schools it thinks should make up the public system as an alternative to the monopolistic neighbourhood comprehensives. If variety and choice are to have meaning there seems no reason why parents and pupils should not have access to "grammar", "technological", comprehensive, denominational and specialist schools.

Where there is demand, and where there does not exist, there should be a means of

creating such schools. The educational issue of the 1990s is whether any government, whatever its politics, will entrust parents with the education of their children and give them the means to make this happen.

DONALD NAISMITH

■ The author is the chief education officer of Wandsworth, southwest London. He argues his case on Channel 4's Class Action programme tomorrow evening



Seeing for himself: Tim Eggar, the education minister, follows a pupil's work at a Wandsworth CTC last month

Adults want to teach ministers a lesson

A campaign has developed to preserve the status of adult education

SOME of the most controversial sections of the Further and Higher Education Bill, which completes its final stages in the House of Commons tomorrow, have been those that concern adult education.

This is a valuable and popular part of the education service, which 500,000 signatories to a petition presented to Parliament recently believe will be unnecessarily damaged if the bill is passed.

The bill proposes that further education colleges with more than 15 per cent full-time entry should be removed from local authority control and be funded through a new body, the Further Education Funding

Council (FEFC). The council's remit is to concentrate on courses leading to national vocational qualifications, GCSEs, AS and A levels, access to higher education, basic skills, English for speakers of other languages, and (in Wales) Welsh.

This would leave all other adult education to depend on local authority support and fees. Most local authority areas still have networks of colleges, institutes and centres that specialise in work with adults. Some of these are part of FE colleges, which will transfer to the FEFC sector. Many others will not have access to the FEFC because they do not have 15 per cent full-time

school-age students. Colleges outside the FEFC sector which, nevertheless, seek to run courses that come within FEFC's remit, will get funded only if they can persuade an FEFC college to bid for money, then sub-contract work to them.

The opponents of the bill — and with an estimated 3.4 million adults enrolled each year, this is a sizeable constituency — consider that this makes adult education vulnerable. For many existing FE colleges, adult education has not been a priority and will not now become one.

Fees can meet a large part of the marginal costs, but it has always been assumed that premises were covered by local authority funds. The

new dispensation will leave adult education exposed and vulnerable when cuts have to be made.

In attempting to cut public spending on recreational activities, the bill threatens to destroy a service that enhances the quality of life for many and which has taken generations to build.

Ministers promise they will issue guidance that will encourage all concerned to treat adult education fairly.

But this only serves to confirm the critics' view: the need for guidance is an admission that the bill is a bad one. If it were not defective, such guidance would not be needed.

STUART MACLURE

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Law Report March 2 1992 House of Lords

Sporting bequest charitable

Guild v Inland Revenue Commissioners

Before Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Roskill, Lord Griffiths, Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle and Lord Lowry

[Speeches February 27]

A testator's bequest of residue "for the use in connection with the sports centre in North Berwick or some similar purpose in connection with sport" was charitable and exempt from capital transfer tax.

The House of Lords allowed an appeal by Mr David James Guild, WS, executor of the late Mr James Young Russell, from the First Division of the Inner House of the Court of Session in Scotland, which by a majority (Lord Hope, Lord President and Lord Macmillan, Lord MacKay of Collieston dissenting) had refused the executor's appeal from the commission's determination to the effect that the transfer of value involved in the bequest was not exempt.

Paragraph 10 of Schedule 6 to the Finance Act 1975 provides: "(1) ... transfers of value are exempt from capital transfer tax to the extent that the value transferred by them ... (a) is attributable to property which is given to charities ..."

"(3) ... property is given to charities if it ... is held on trust for charitable purposes only."

Section 1 of the Recreational

Charities Act 1958 provides: "(1) it shall be ... charitable to provide, or assist in the provision of, facilities for recreation or other leisure-time occupation. If the facilities are provided in the interests of social welfare: Provided that ... a trust ... to be charitable must be for the public benefit."

"(2) The requirements ... that the facilities are provided in the interests of social welfare shall not be treated as satisfied unless ... (a) [they] are provided with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom [they] are primarily intended; ..."

Mr J. E. Drummond Young, QC and Mr A. J. Hamilton, both of the Scots Bar, for the executor, Mr D. C. A. Ennis, QC, Mr Patrick S. Hodge, both of the Scots Bar, and Mr Laurence Henderson for the commissioners.

LORD KEITH said that a Scottish court, when faced with the task of construing "charity" and "charitable" in a United Kingdom tax statute, had to do so in accordance with the technical meaning of those words in English law.

In *Inland Revenue Commissioners v McMillan* (1978) 1 WLR 664, 675 Mr Justice Walton had said that the words "social welfare" in section 1(1) of the 1958 Act "... in themselves indicate that there is some sort of deprivation ... which falls to be

alleviated ... [the persons for whom the facilities are primarily intended] must be to some extent and in some way deprived persons."

The majority of the Court of Appeal (1979) 1 WLR 130 had affirmed the judge but Lord Justice Bridge had dissented. He had said (at p142): "I can see no reason to conclude that only the deprived can have their conditions of life improved. Hyde Park improves the conditions of life for residents in Mayfair and Belgrave as much as for those in Finsbury or the Portobello Road, and the village hall may improve the conditions of life for the squire and his family as well as for the cottagers."

The fact was that persons in all walks of life and all kinds of social circumstances might have their conditions of life improved by the provision of recreational facilities of suitable character. Lord Justice Bridge's view was clearly correct and Mr Justice Walton's view was incorrect.

It sufficed if the facilities were provided with the object of improving the conditions of life for members of the community generally. It had not been seriously maintained that the facilities at the sports centre were not so provided.

The remaining question was whether the second branch of the bequest, referring to "some similar purpose in connection with sport", was so provided.

It was so widely expressed as to admit of the funds being applied in some manner that fell outside the requirements of section 1 of the 1958 Act.

An English judge in considering the validity of the language used in a charitable gift would adopt the generous approach to any question of construction arising out of it and a Scottish judge dealing with the tax consequences should do likewise.

Adopting so far as necessary a benign construction, his Lordship inferred that the testator's intention had been that any other purpose to which the bequest or any part of it might be applied should display the leading characteristics of the sports centre, which lay in the nature of the facilities provided there and the fact that they were available to the public at large.

Those were the characteristics that enabled the sports centre to satisfy section 1 of the 1958 Act.

In the result, the first part of the bequest being charitable, the same was true of the second part.

LORD ROSKILL, LORD GRIFFITHS, LORD JAUNCEY and LORD LOWRY agreed.

Solicitors: Penningtons for Henderson & Jackson, WS, Edinburgh; Solicitors, Inland Revenue, for Solicitor, Inland Revenue, Scotland.

Leave for fresh evidence in contempt

Intelli v Squaird and Others
Before Sir Donald Nicholls, Vice-Chancellor, Lord Justice Taylor and Lord Justice Farquharson
[Judgment February 10]

On appeal from a committal order for civil contempt, leave should be given to the contemnor to adduce fresh evidence if necessary or expedient in the interests of justice, notwithstanding that the conditions laid down in *Ladd v Marshall* (1954) 1 WLR 1489 were not satisfied.

The Court of Appeal so held when allowing an appeal by the first defendants, Renato Squaird and Livia Vidor, from their committal by Judge Judd, at Wandsworth County Court, on August 2, 1991, in their absence to four months imprisonment for contempt of court by breaching an injunction obtained against them by the plaintiff, Jean Pierre Intelli.

Mr James Wadsworth, QC and Mr William Hensley for the first defendants; the plaintiff did not appear and was not represented.

LORD JUSTICE FARQUHARSON said that two matters were before the court: (i) the

first defendants' appeal against the judge's order committing them to prison for four months; and (ii) their application to adduce fresh evidence to explain the contempt.

At the hearing of the motion for committal, neither defendant had appeared before the judge, there had been no affidavits accounting for their absence and the solicitor then representing them had offered no explanation. It was hardly surprising, therefore, that the judge had found them to be in contempt of court.

With regard to the application relating to fresh evidence, Mr Wadsworth had submitted that the court should act by analogy with the practice of the Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, in granting leave to adduce fresh evidence. Rather surprisingly, there was no authority.

Counsel had relied on *R v Lattimore* (1973) 62 Cr App R 531 and had submitted that that the court should provide a just method of resolving the admissibility issue as distinct from applying the obligations set out in *Ladd v Marshall*. Certainly the defendants would find themselves

in considerable difficulty in the case of the first of those obligations (to show that the evidence could not have been obtained with reasonable diligence for use at the hearing).

Section 23(1) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 provided that the Court of Appeal might, if it thought it necessary or expedient in the interests of justice, allow fresh evidence. His Lordship took the view that in the instant case the court should approach the question on the basis of those introductory words in section 23.

If the judge's decision were to be upheld, the defendants stood to lose their liberty. The wider terms of the 1968 Act should be applied by analogy.

His Lordship said that having considered the fresh evidence and having had regard to all the circumstances, it was impossible to say that the defendants had, intentionally, breached the order. He would, therefore, discharge it.

The Vice-Chancellor and Lord Justice Taylor delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Constant & Constant.

Company terms

Bratton Seymour Service Company Ltd v Oxborough
Terms could never be implied into the articles of association of a company on the basis of extrinsic evidence of surrounding circumstances.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Slynn and Sir Christopher Slade) so held on February 21 in allowing an appeal by the defendant, Mr

E. Oxborough against the decision of Judge O'Malley at Yeovil County Court on July 11, 1990 who had held that the defendant was, by virtue of his membership of the plaintiff company, under an obligation to pay such reasonable contribution, determined by the company, towards the expenses of maintaining both the utility and amenity areas of Bratton House development.

Solicitors: Constant & Constant.

EDUCATION

COURSES

Continued from Page 6

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BBC 1

- 6.00 **Ceeba** (9457951) 6.30 **Breakfast News** begins with *Business Breakfast* until 6.55 when Nicholas Witchell and Jill Dando present news and topical reports with regular business, sport, weather, regional news and travel bulletins (5710492).
- 9.05 **Kilroy** hosts a topical debate with a studio audience (9237043).
- 9.50 **Hot Chefs**. Stuffed quail and buttered risotto (9380579).
- 10.00 **News**, regional news and weather (9204299) 10.05 **Playdays** (r) (9790314) 10.25 **Bump** (r) (9207376) 10.35 **The Flintstones** (r) (9750043).
- 11.00 **News**, regional news and weather (4432043) 11.05 **Rosemary Conley**. Includes advice on how a healthy diet can help in dealing with the symptoms of pre-menstrual tension, and prevent weight gain during hormone replacement therapy (9397898) 11.30 **People Today** (9156482).
- 12.20 **Pebble Mill**. Introduced by Judi Spera (s) (2886111) 12.55 **Regional News and Weather** (9041835).
- 1.00 **One O'Clock News** (24988).
- 1.30 **Neighbours** (Ceeba) (s) (4877555) 1.50 **Going For Gold** (4417559).
- 2.15 **Knots Landing**. Karen thinks about selling Lotus Point, which is on the verge of bankruptcy (9397821) 3.00 **The Odd Couple** (9237453) 3.35 **Beaver** (9252330).
- 3.50 **Orville And Cuddles** (949647) 3.55 **Radio Roo** (s) (9721918).
- 4.10 **Jackanory**. Rory McGrath reads the story of *Jenny Greenthorn* and the *Traveling Dentist* (r) (9325734) 4.25 **Fantastic Max** (r) (4145444) 4.35 **Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles** (Ceeba) (9573503).
- 5.00 **Newsround** (9075753) 5.05 **Blue Peter** (Ceeba) (s) (9835888).
- 5.35 **Neighbours** (Ceeba) (r) (s) (29344). Northern Ireland: *Inside Lister*.
- 6.00 **Six O'Clock News** with Peter Seaton and Moira Stuart (Ceeba) (Weather) (9252330).
- 6.30 **Regional News Magazines** (47). Northern Ireland: *Neighbours* 7.00 **Wogan**. Terry Charles to Cameron Mackintosh, producer of the forthcoming West End musical *Moby Dick*. Robert Longdon, the show's writer/director and to Tony Monopoly, one of the stars (s) (9579).
- 7.30 **Watchdog**. Consumer affairs magazine presented by Lynn Faulds Wood and John Stapleton (31).
- 8.00 **Mulberry**. Easy-going sitcom from the Esmond-Larney team starring chirpy Karl Howman as the new servant of a crabby spinster (Geraldine McEwan). (Ceeba) (s) (7227).



Bullish behaviour: elephant seals in California (8.30pm)

- 8.30 **Wildlife On One: Blubber Lovers**. CHOICE: We are on the coastline of California. A century ago elephant seals, huge, ugly, and weighing up to 2½ tons, were hunted by man for their blubber and reduced to a mere 100 or so. Today there are 120,000 and they are hunted only by wildlife filmmakers in search of footage. Moira Stuart's documentary has the usual ration of sex and violence and much emphasis on mating habits. A scientist called Burney J. Le Boeuf has been studying the behaviour of the seals on land and at sea. He had the bright idea of painting names on them, using women's hair colouring, so that he could see who was doing what to whom. To measure the seals' prodigious dives, equal to the height of Ben Nevis, he booted glued time/depth recorders to their backs. This being the United States, the technology was of course Japanese (5734).
- 9.00 **Nine O'Clock News** with Michael Buerk (Ceeba) Regional news and weather (9555).
- 9.30 **Newsround** *Celeste at the Coalfields*. Jane Corbin looks at the prospects for the coal industry after privatisation (223005).
- 10.10 **Cagney and Lacey** (Ceeba) (r) Christine is reluctant to team up with a paraplegic man when she investigates a series of wheelchair muggings (79898). Northern Ireland: *Scam* 10.40-11.25 **Cagney and Lacey**. Wales: *Great Voices of Wales* 10.50-11.20 **Fox (r).**
- 11.00 **Gardens by Design**. David Stevens looks at ways of improving the front garden (Ceeba) (r) (203935).
- 11.25 **Advice Shop** (r) (9495048). Wales: 11.20 **Cagney and Lacey** 12.05 **Gardens by Design** 12.35 **Advice Shop** 11.40 **Weather** (922454) Ends at 11.50.
- 2.00 **The Way Ahead** (r) (9002716). Ends at 2.15am.

BBC 2

- 6.45 **Open University** (9247686). Ends at 7.10.
- 8.00 **BBC Breakfast News** (15) 8.15 **Westminster** (9374288).
- 8.30 **Boasting Butler**. Tony Butler takes a look at the rivers from Gloucester to Malvern (r) (2884).
- 9.00 **Daytime** on 2. Educational programmes.
- 10.00 **News and weather** (7471348) followed by *Storytime* (r) (9539049) 2.15 **Westminster** (9374288) (r) (2572855).
- 2.45 **In the Garden** with Dennis Corbett (1146111).
- 3.00 **Songs Of Praise**. A satellite link-up between Bristol and Ghana (r) (s) (4464723). Includes News and weather at 3.00.
- 3.40 **I Could Do That**. A look at the work of professional woodworker Chris McCourt (4804821) 3.50 **News**, regional news and weather (121432).
- 4.00 **Catchword**. Word games hosted by Paul Cole (s) (90).
- 4.30 **Grand Prix**. Highlights from South Africa (r) (44).
- 5.00 **One In Four**. Mike Higgins presents the disability magazine series (9035).
- 5.30 **Film 52** with Barry Norman. Includes reviews of *The Last Boy Scout* with Bruce Willis and *The Man in the Moon* starring Sam Waterston and Tess Harper. Plus a look at the new video which captures highlights from 21 years of Oscar ceremonies (s) (r) (24).
- 6.00 **The Addams Family** (r). Classic American comedy series based on the ghoulish cartoon characters. Starring John Astin, Jackie Coogan and Carolyn Jones (Ceeba) (929229).
- 6.25 **DEF 11** begins with *The Fresh Prince of Bel Air*. The adventures of a streetwise inner-city Pittsburgh youth who goes to live with wealthy relatives on the west coast (951586) 6.50 **Open To Question**. Kate Adie asks questions from the young studio audience (911537) 7.25 **Top News**. *Bad Luck Buggy* (r) (125822).
- 7.30 **Young Musicians of the Year**. Masterclasses. Joanna MacGregor passes on her expertise to three young pianists (s) (956227).
- 8.10 **Horizon: An Expensive Theology**. CHOICE: The Nuclear Structure Facility at Daresbury in Cheshire is a world leader in exploring the nuclei at the centre of atoms. It is being closed to save money. At the same time British contributions 255 million a year to the Geneva-based European Nuclear Research Centre (CERN) where scientists specialising in particle physics are exploring the structure of the universe. Horizon uses these two examples to look at Britain's record in scientific funding and the arguments about research priorities. CERN is not only crowding out projects such as Daresbury but is an expensive luxury with no immediate application. Geoffrey Pattle, a former minister of Information Technology, offers an even wider perspective: "When we could be paying for bypasses, hospitals or school books, the future of a particle physics experiment in Switzerland looks very far away." (s) (Ceeba) (944227).



Inverness: Badluck, Dennis and Paul (Hick, Newman 6.00pm)

- 9.00 **The Mary Whitehouse Experience**. David Badluck, Hugh Dennis, Rob Newman and Steve Punt return with a new series of irreverent humour (4598).
- 9.30 **Underbelly**. The third part of Peter Ransley's gripping thriller about politics and corruption, starring David Hayman as a property tycoon in prison for fraud. (Ceeba) (r) (91179).
- 10.30 **Newsnight** with Peter Snow (23000).
- 11.15 **The Late Show**. Arts and media magazine (s) (952550) 11.55 **Weather** (922685).
- 12.00 **Open University**. The Emergence of Greek Mathematics (93425). Ends at 12.30am.

ITV

- 6.00 **TV-am** (9502043).
- 6.25 **Lucky Ladders**. Quiz game show hosted by Lennie Bennett in which contestants can win luxury holidays (s) (9497579) 6.55 **Thames News** (9362886).
- 10.00 **The Time ... The Place ...**. Topical discussion series chaired by John Stapleton (9801043).
- 10.40 **This Morning**. Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley host the daily magazine programme. Live from Liverpool's Albert Dock. Today's edition includes advice on medical help for children and a look at the world of interior design. With national and international news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.55 followed by national weather (4663280).
- 12.10 **Roads and Mrs. Children's puppet series** (9573818).
- 12.30 **News** (Ceeba) Weather (7945260) 1.10 **Thames News** (46796).
- 1.20 **Home and Away**. Australian family drama (Ceeba) (9395579).
- 1.50 **A Country Practice**. Medical drama set in the Australian outback (18165).
- 2.20 **Thames Help**. Jackie Sprackley looks at the work of volunteers (9223395) 2.50 **Families**. Soap linking the north of England with Australia (s) (9323579).
- 3.15 **ITN News** headlines (954753) 3.30 **Thames News** headlines (951885) 3.35 **The Young Doctors**. Australian medical drama series (9232818).
- 3.55 **Cartoon Time** with the Road Runner (9593814) 4.00 **T-Bag and the Sunstones of Montezuma** (954345) 4.25 **Chap 'n' Dale - Rescue Rangers** (5112227) 4.50 **Utterly Brilliant**. Timmy Mallett dresses up with the help of Wendy Barker who shows him some cheap ways to look chic, and how to make mazes and wigs from junk (s) (9518918).
- 5.10 **Blackboard Jungle**. General knowledge quiz game for teenagers, presented by Bob Holmes (9323205).
- 5.40 **News** with John Suchet. (Ceeba) Weather (980005).
- 5.55 **Thames Help**. Jackie Sprackley on volunteer work (r) (215182).
- 6.00 **Home and Away** (r) (Ceeba) (93).
- 6.30 **Thames News**. (Ceeba) (43).
- 7.00 **Wish You Were Here**. Judith Chalmers looks at London's tourist attractions with a royal favour. John Carter finds out about famous holidays in western Ireland and Alison Holloway goes to Cuba (Ceeba) (9647).



Daylight robbery: Barbara Knox, centre, is comforted (7.30pm)

- 7.30 **Coronation Street**. (Ceeba) (27).
- 8.00 **Take Your Pick**. The best or the worst? Des O'Connor hosts the revival of the 1950s game show (s) (2365).
- 8.30 **World in Action**. *The Dirty War*. As the 1992 election approaches, World in Action investigates the dirty tricks departments of the political parties. It reveals how both Conservative and Labour parties have met American media consultants to assist in negative campaigning and attack advertising (1802).
- 9.00 **El Cid**. The *Lost Stranger*. Last in the understanding crime-series starring John Blot and Amanda Redman. Douglas suspects that Merer may be killer on the loose, but work is the last thing on his mind when he meets a young primary schoolteacher. (Ceeba) (r) (763).
- 10.00 **News at Ten** (Ceeba) (9846) 10.30 **Thames News** (935452).
- 10.40 **Film: Dances With Wolves**. Misconceived attempt to update the *Dances with Wolves* (1972). London providing the backdrop for Christopher Lee's vampire deeds. With Stephen Beacham and Marsha Hunt. Directed by Alan Gibson (73203).
- 12.30am **Sportsweek Extra**. Highlights from the US indoor tennis championships and weekend football action (12425).
- 1.30 **Film: Blood Alley** (1955). Routine adventure with John Wayne and Lauren Bacall setting off by boat to rescue Chinese refugees who are fleeing the communists. With Paul Fix and Anita Ekberg. Directed by William Wellman (98715).
- 2.30 **Reap The Whirlwind**. Drama serial set in 19th century Cape Town (70222).
- 4.30 **Stage 1**. Featuring Voice of the Beehive (s) (1193).
- 8.30 **ITN Morning News** (5199). Ends at 8.59.

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 **Channel 4 Daily** (9505685).
- 6.25 **Schools** (5424735).
- 12.00 **Right To Reply**. A chance for viewers to challenge programme makers about television. Presented by Sheila McDonald (r). (Teletext) (s) (12840).
- 12.30 **Business Daily**. The latest news, analysis and comment from the world's money markets (30005).
- 1.00 **Seaside Street**. Entertaining pre-school learning series (27280).
- 2.00 **Film: Wanted For Murder** (1946 b/w). Compelling British thriller starring Eric Portman as a man obsessed by his father's role as an official hangman. When a number of young women are strangled, Portman becomes the prime suspect. With Dulcie Gray and Derek Farr. Directed by Lawrence Huntington (2480).
- 4.00 **Flowering Passions**. Anne Pavord explores gardens in Scotland and Cornwall (r). (Teletext) (55).
- 4.30 **Courtroom**. Richard Whitley with another round of the words and numbers game (s) (40).
- 5.00 **The Late Late Show**. Music and chat from Dublin, presented by Gay Byrne (230).
- 6.00 **The Cosby Show**. American domestic comedy series (r). (Teletext) (55).
- 6.30 **Tonight**. With Jonathan Ross. Live music and guests with Jonathan Ross (s) (85).
- 7.00 **Channel 4 News** with Jon Snow and Zainab Badawi. (Teletext) Weather (381685).
- 7.30 **Comment** (574537).
- 8.00 **Brookside**. Soap set in suburban Merseyside. (Teletext) (s) (5127).
- 8.30 **Evening Show**. Folky American comedy series starring Burt Reynolds as a former football star now coaching in his home town school team (9444).



Missing without trace: Billy Dunne with his family (9.00pm)

- 9.00 **Cutting Edges: Looking for Billy**. CHOICE: It is nearly five years since Billy Dunne, a father of ten from Dublin, set out to work in his car and was never seen again. The car was later found by the River Liffey but there was no sign of a body. The family was bewildered. There seemed nothing to explain Billy's disappearance. This film charts the efforts of a Derek Nelly, one of Ireland's leading private investigators, to uncover the truth. The strongest lead comes from Jersey where Billy was apparently seen working on a building site. As well as offering a detective story, the film is also a portrait of a large extended family trying to come to terms with the loss of a son, husband and father. Billy's wife says the business has got to her, but her ambiguous legal status (is she a wife, a widow or something in between?) means constant tussles with unfeeling bureaucracy (8289).
- 10.00 **thirtysomething**. American comedy drama series about a group of friends in their thirties. Melissa's confidence is boosted when she gets a photo assignment in Hollywood (Teletext) (473173).
- 10.55 **Global Image: Utopias**. Seven versions of socialism are explored through interviews with activists from around the world. They talk about the survival of socialism, its traditions, its present concerns and its vision of the future (r) (95848734).
- 1.30 **Tonight** with Jonathan Ross (r) (s) (9505894).
- 1.50 **Film: Wings of Death** (1955). A young heroin addict recalls happier days as he makes a nightmarish trip through hallucinations and reality in a seedy run-down hotel. A powerful short from the British Film Institute starring Dexter Fletcher and directed by Nicholas Bruce and Michael Coulson (938067).
- 2.15 **Film: Passing Glory** (1988). When a grandmother, a victim of the Spanish civil war, dies her funeral sparks off political and religious divisions within her family. An intense and moving film from writer/director Gillies MacKinnon, starring Fiona Chalmers and Ida Schuster (8124405). Ends at 2.55.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes

The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ remote. VideoPlus+ can be used with most videos. Top list Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 40p per minute peak, 30p off-peak) or write to VideoPlus, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. Just for Laughs (730023) 12.30 *Evening News* (704059) 1.30 *David*

SATellite

- SKY ONE**
- 6.00am *The DJ* (9503579) 6.40 *News* (9503579) 6.55 *Playhouse* (9503579) 7.00 *News* (9503579) 7.10 *Playhouse* (9503579) 7.20 *News* (9503579) 7.30 *Playhouse* (9503579) 7.40 *News* (9503579) 7.50 *Playhouse* (9503579) 8.00 *News* (9503579) 8.10 *Playhouse* (9503579) 8.20 *News* (9503579) 8.30 *Playhouse* (9503579) 8.40 *News* (9503579) 8.50 *Playhouse* (9503579) 9.00 *News* (9503579) 9.10 *Playhouse* (9503579) 9.20 *News* (9503579) 9.30 *Playhouse* (9503579) 9.40 *News* (9503579) 9.50 *Playhouse* (9503579) 10.00 *News* (9503579) 10.10 *Playhouse* (9503579) 10.20 *News* (9503579) 10.30 *Playhouse* (9503579) 10.40 *News* (9503579) 10.50 *Playhouse* (9503579) 11.00 *News* (9503579) 11.10 *Playhouse* (9503579) 11.20 *News* (9503579) 11.30 *Playhouse* (9503579) 11.40 *News* (9503579) 11.50 *Playhouse* (9503579) 12.00 *News* (9503579) 12.10 *Playhouse* (9503579) 12.20 *News* (9503579) 12.30 *Playhouse* (9503579) 12.40 *News* (9503579) 12.50 *Playhouse* (9503579) 1.00 *News* (9503579) 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MAN OF THE WEEK

Austere habit at the Abbey

Tomorrow should be a special occasion for Peter Birch. Less than three years after its traumatic transformation from building society to bank, Abbey National is expected to report annual results leaving it second to only Lloyds in the banks' profit pecking order.

A rise in profits in a year that saw the housing market on its knees and repossession at record levels is remarkable. But Mr Birch, who became Abbey's chief executive in 1984 after the departure of Clive Thornton to the *Daily Mirror*, is not one for workplace celebrations. He will arrive at work at 9 o'clock and eight hours later he will go home.

In the macho, modern world of 16-hour working days, it is a refreshing if austere style that says much of a man who knows what he wants and how to get it. Distractions do not feature in his working life. Delegation, his colleagues say, does.

His aim is not for Abbey to be the biggest



Peter Birch: innovator

bank — it is not a conventional banking group anyway — but to be the best Abbey National, selling financial services, including banking, to the public. The means to that end are the marketing skills honed in a 19-year career with Gillette, culminating in a four-year stint as managing director of Gillette UK.

Now 54, Birch has learned the importance of branding and rarely misses a chance to remind the public of the Abbey name. Mr Thornton may have initiated the break-up of the mortgage rate cartel, but Mr Birch has maintained the publicity and business-generating tradition of cutting rates first.

Critics say that Abbey has simply not had enough time yet to go wrong and certainly the impact of the Birch innovations — last year's £285 million purchase of Scottish Mutual, the expansion into Europe, and a move into retail stockbroking — will not be felt for some time. The goal of the one-stop financial services group has been a graveyard for so many companies. It may yet be the making of Peter Birch.

MATTHEW BOND

Reporting this week, page 22

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar 1.7580 (+0.0110)
German mark 2.8778 (-0.0030)
Exchange index 90.7 (+0.2)

Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 1983.0 (+0.1)
FT-SE 100 2562.1 (+19.8)
New York Dow Jones 3267.67 (-12.52)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge 21338.81 (+47.00)

Minister presses electricity chiefs to support £200m-a-year conservation scheme

Wakeham calls for energy efficiency trust

By ROSS TIERMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Wakeham, the Energy Secretary, has asked the chairman of the 12 regional electricity companies to back a national energy efficiency trust. Supporters believe the scheme could have a budget of £200 million a year by the mid-Nineties.

Electricity customers could be compelled to contribute up to £40 million a year through a levy on household bills, with a matching contribution from the companies themselves. If combined with a similar scheme in the gas industry, and given additional funds by the government's Energy Efficiency Office, the cross-industry body could channel more than £1 billion into domestic energy saving schemes by the end of the decade.

The trust is likely to go ahead whether or not Britain wins an international commitment to stabilise emissions of carbon dioxide in Rio de Janeiro this summer. Mr

Wakeham is believed to be keen to unveil the first phase of the trust programme before the election. The government has been stung by critics who have argued that privatisation of the gas and electricity industries gave insufficient attention to energy efficiency measures, even where they were highly cost-effective. The energy secretary has also been under pressure from Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, to underpin government promises to tackle global warming with action.

Mr Wakeham's request has encountered a mixed reaction from the electricity companies. John Harris, chairman of East Midlands Electricity, said: "We welcome any initiative to encourage energy efficiency, and we would support such a proposal if it were taken up by the government." Others have sought advice from Oftec, the industry's regulator. The energy department did not inform Oftec of its approach to

the company chairman. Last December Oftec issued a consultation paper on energy efficiency, giving companies and individuals until June to respond. Professor Stephen Lindoch, the electricity regulator, suggested he might be prepared to allow companies to impose a levy on customers for efficiency projects. That would mirror developments in gas, where Sir James McKinnon, the regulator, is pressing for a levy of 3p a week per household to fund the basis of an energy efficiency drive. Ofgas wants the £25 million a year this would raise to be matched by British Gas.

In response to the pressure from Sir James, British Gas proposed an energy efficiency trust. It is this idea which has been seized by the government as the basis for the cross-industry trust. Although the government is likely to focus on the environmental benefits of the scheme, Sir James' principal concern is to tackle the problem of "fuel poverty" among poorer families.

Last year, the number of British Gas customers in arrears rose by 200,000 to almost 1 million. Together they owe British Gas £152 million.

If energy efficiency measures help reduce debt, British Gas might be able to present it as a benefit to shareholders. Last year the company wrote off £20 million of unpaid bills. It has set aside a similar sum for unpaid household bills in 1992. Domestic arrears are also a problem in the electricity industry. Many electricity industry executives argue that the spread of energy efficiency measures will improve the competitiveness of electricity against gas. They also believe this could provide the chance to refocus their businesses to the sale of energy services. That could enable them to draw an increased share of profit from a business area free from close regulation, and help protect their markets once they are opened fully to competition after 1998.



Pressure: John Wakeham is being pushed to take action on global warming

Beleaguered unions press ahead with merger plans

By OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF

EFFORTS to create two new super unions, each with more than a million members, reach a critical phase this week.

The result of a merger ballot among members of the AEU engineering union and the EETPU electricians' and plumbers' union is to be announced on Wednesday. Leaders of both unions have predicted that a large majority will vote in favour.

The AEU leadership is also confident that members will support its preferred name — the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union — for the new industrial union, which would have 1.1 million members.

Members of the National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalco) will meet at a special conference in London on Wednesday to approve details of the union's planned merger with the National Union of Public Employees (Nupe) and the Confederation of Health Service Employees (Cohse). The tie-up is not expected to receive

formal approval from members until June, when ballots will be held at the unions' conferences.

However, a merger would create a single dominant public sector union which, with 1.4 million members, would outstrip even the mighty Transport & General Workers' Union.

Pressure for mergers stems partly from the unions' declining power base among Britain's employees. A report drawn up for Norman Willis, the general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, is believed to show that by the end of last year, union membership had fallen by more

than a third since 1979, from 12 million to around 7.8 million.

The decline has put many unions under overwhelming pressure to trim their costs in line with their reduced incomes, and to seek economies of scale.

Merger of the AEU with the EETPU, only half its size, is expected to lead to job losses, albeit by natural wastage, among union officers.

In the public sector, which has escaped the worst impact of industry's contraction, leaders also see amalgamation as the route to more cost-effective provision of services.

Europe's bananas could be squashed

By GEORGE BROCK

THE European Community is tiptoeing towards a policy for one of the most sensitive fruits to be liberated by the single market: the banana.

The EC Commission has been trying, and failing, to write a "European Banana Regulation" for the past four years. This leisurely indecision has been brought to an abrupt end by Arthur Dunkel, director-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. GATT's draft treaty on liberalising the world's trade would spell the end of privileges enjoyed by the "European banana".

This strange fruit is European for tax purposes only. It is grown in the Caribbean ex-colonies of France and Britain and enjoys privileged access to western Europe. "Dollar bananas" from Central America face steep tariffs. Eurocrats are trapped between two powerful forces: German banana-eaters and the French government.

EC trade and farm ministers will be in Brussels today to draw up a list of disagreements with Mr Dunkel's proposals on cutting farm subsidies. Bananas are not on the menu, but Louis Mermeas, France's farm minister, plans a harangue on the subject and Dame Eugenia Charles, prime minister of banana-producing Dominica, will be there to plead the "European fruit's" case.

The Treaty of Rome included a German banana protocol. Germans, still suffering severe post-war rationing, were allowed 800,000 tons a year of tax-free bananas.

The Association of European Banana Producers fears that the German loophole will be used to flood every market in the Community with unlimited quantities of central American fruit. They recently issued a document entitled "The Big Intrigue of the German Banana Importers".

France argues that bananas should be taken out of any GATT agreement and wants special arrangements to protect European bananas from competition in the single market. The commission is considering a system of quotas that would give Caribbean growers some protected imports to Europe.

Recession limits employee training

By OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF

COMPANIES are putting a brake on their training budgets because of the recession, according to the Industrial Society. Despite widespread recognition that the skills of British workers need to be improved, even companies committed to training often find their ambitions curbed by economic constraints.

The results of the society's quarterly training survey, out today, show a marked shift in expectations during the final months of 1990.

The figures continue to show a strong rise in training investment, with 40 per cent of respondents saying their firms spent more on training in the second half of 1991 than in the same period of 1990. Overall, 32 per cent of

managers questioned in December expected their training budgets to go on rising, a further 40 per cent thought they would stay the same.

However, the proportion expecting a rise has fallen from 38 per cent since the society's September survey. In the same period, the proportion expecting a fall in training spending has increased sharply, from 13 per cent to 24 per cent.

The positive balance between firms expecting to spend more on training, and those expecting to spend less, has therefore shrunk from 25 to 8 per cent. The society said the results were worrying because its 15,000 member firms had an above-average commitment to training.

Granada board faces protest

By MARTIN WALLER

A GROUP of aggrieved employees of Granada, the North-West television franchise holder, is expected to attend tomorrow's annual meeting of Granada Group, the parent, to protest at the abrupt departure of David Plowright, one of the most respected figures in independent TV, after a clash with Gerry Robinson, the new chief executive.

Shareholders will also have the opportunity to question the board about a £579,550 payoff to Derek Lewis, Mr Robinson's predecessor, which aroused the ire of several institutions when it was revealed in the 1991 ac-

counts. Mr Lewis's departure was the price exacted by the City for the fall in Granada's fortunes that led to a £310 million rights issue last year to prop up the balance sheet.

The departure of Mr Plowright, a former *World in Action* editor and the man behind triumphs such as *Brideshead Revisited* and *Jewel in the Crown*, raised concerns about future programming standards at Granada, which won its franchise on quality grounds despite a higher bid.

There were protests from Granada employees and showbusiness figures, including Julie Goodyear, the ac-

trix who plays Bet Gilroy, the landlady of the Rover's Return public house in Granada's *Coronation Street*.

Employees who travel south for the day might locate themselves tactfully in the opposite corner of the ballroom at the Grosvenor House hotel to any shareholders protesting at another decision, which allowed Mr Plowright to buy a Cheshire house worth perhaps £450,000 for £81,153.

The Granada meeting therefore looks like it could equal *Coronation Street*, or even one of Mr Plowright's more prestigious productions, for drama this year.



Willis: shrinking base

Legal feathers ruffled over Lloyd's

By JONATHAN PRYNN

MICHAEL Freeman, the lawyer who is waging a one-man legal war against the Lloyd's insurance market establishment on behalf of names, is fast gaining the reputation as the most effective organiser of the diffuse forces lined up in opposition to Lloyd's.

However, as well as causing outrage on Lime Street, he has won no friends among the conservative City law firms also in the game of advising names.

The founder of Michael Freeman & Co's most provocative and eye-catching move to date has been the attempt last month to secure court injunctions for more than 600 names to prevent Lloyd's members' agents drawing down on names' deposits. This followed two highly publicised and well attended seminars in January at which Mr Freeman eloquently and persuasively outlined the moral and legal case against Lloyd's.

However, the methods used by Mr Freeman to win support for his action have provoked hostility from other firms who have accused him of not adequately

preparing his case and unfairly raising the hopes of suffering names. So far, Mr Freeman has charged names participating in his action £470 each and has asked them to write an undated cheque for £200 to cover costs if the action fails.

Last week saw a flurry of letters from names' groups and law firms casting doubt on the Freeman move. The Federation Names Association, one of the largest names groups, sent out a newsletter after consulting Richards Butler, its legal adviser, which told its members: "We cannot recommend that names become plaintiffs in the legal proceedings proposed by Michael Freeman & Co."

A few days earlier DJ Freeman, another law firm advising Lloyd's names, which has no connection with Michael Freeman's firm, wrote to its clients disassociating itself with some of the advice given by Mr Freeman. Withers, a law firm advising Gooda Walker and Rose Thomson Young names, has written to the heads of several action groups advising them not to recommend members to join the Freeman action.

There have also been suggestions that

Mr Freeman's advertisements and letters to names inviting them to send cheques for £200 to join the injunction have breached Law Society professional conduct rules. Mr Freeman himself has admitted that at least one members' agent has threatened to report him to the Law Society.

However, he is relaxed about the possibility. "If the Law Society thought I was in breach of the rules they would have contacted me by now," he said. He pointed out that recent relaxations of Law Society standards have made it much easier for lawyers to publicise their services.

Despite the reservations, which, for some, were confirmed last week by a House of Lords victory for Lloyd's over a group of names advised by his firm, Mr Freeman enjoys hero status for the aggression and speed with which he has acted. It is a high-risk strategy, but with Lloyd's forecast to report total losses of up to £2.5 billion over the next two years, the stakes could hardly be higher.

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Budget for votes, not economy, is tipped by experts

BY GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

NORMAN Lamont's Budget next week is likely to be judged in financial markets on the test of whether it improves the government's election chances rather than on its economic merits, most City economists agree.

The electoral focus on the Budget comes as the monetarist Liverpool Economic Research group predicts that Britain's output will shrink by a further 0.4 per cent this year, instead of recovering from recession.

The prediction is based on slow money growth and the need for continued high interest rates to sustain sterling.

Tax reductions or concess-

sions amounting to at least £3 billion are widely expected and discounted in the City. Ian Harnett, of Société Générale, argues that Mr Lamont's Budget will be seen as one for voters rather than for the economy. "An injection of anything less than £4 billion will disappoint the market," he says.

Keith Skeoch, of James Capel, calculates that a £3 billion Budget easing would allow for little more than a one-point cut in the rate of income tax and freezing of the universal business rate.

This would, however, bring the fiscal boost to the economy up to 1 per cent of national

output when combined with about £3 billion of discretionary spending increases announced in the autumn statement. A cut in the 10 per cent special tax on cars and over-indexation of some personal allowances are also widely predicted.

City forecasts suggest that the public sector borrowing requirement will, as a result of Budget measures, more than double in 1992-3 to between £24 billion and £30 billion. This would be more than 4 per cent of national output, breaching the ceiling for EC economic convergence, but still less than in Germany.

David Smith, of Williams de Broé, argues that aside from Budget politics there is little difference between Conservative and Labour economic policies. He says: "There is a massive inconsistency between the all-party desire for increased public spending and ERM membership."

Professor Patrick Minford, of Liverpool University, writes in the Liverpool research group's new quarterly economic bulletin: "After years when the public finances justified tax cuts, the Tories failed to make any. Yet now, panicked by the depression their monetary policy has created, they are about to make one just when, as a result of their laxity in public expenditure, there is no longer any case for doing so."

The Liverpool forecasters, who use a money-based model of the economy, have produced by far the gloomiest view of economic prospects yet. Their prediction of a 0.4 per cent drop in gross domestic product this year, followed by modest 1.6 per cent growth in 1993, contrasts with an average growth forecast of 1.2 per cent for 1992.

David Kern, of National Westminster Bank, also takes a cautious view, predicting that non-oil output will rise 0.5 per cent this year and GDP by 0.9 per cent. He forecasts that the "northern regions and Wales will lead a modest recovery in the second quarter of the year, achieving 0.6 per cent and 0.9 per cent growth for the year. The South-East will grow by only 0.2 per cent, he believes.

□ Senior officials of the Group of Seven industrial nations agree that global recession is not imminent, a German official said yesterday (Reuters report).

Horst Koehler, state secretary at the finance ministry, told reporters that "immense topics" had been discussed during three days of confidential talks by G7 deputy finance ministers at an hotel near Frankfurt.

Policies for strengthening world economic growth and the multi-billion dollar debts of the former Soviet Union headed the list, Herr Koehler said after the final session.

BRUSSELS NOTEBOOK

French wine lobby fights alcohol tax

THE vexed question of excise duties on alcohol has been raised again in Brussels, where the French wine lobby, the CFCV, has predicted dire consequences if the European Commission tries to tax drink according to alcohol content.

The CFCV claims the retail price of wine in France would rise 82 per cent if the new tax plan goes through. The commissioner for taxation, Christiane Scrivener, of France, has repeatedly said the system will have more flexibility, but the industry is worried.

The CFCV says taxes on wine in France would climb from Fr9.68 a bottle to Fr18.01. The resulting drop in demand would cut the number of wine producers from 450,000 to 150,000, with similar effects predicted in Spain and Italy, the community's two other main wine countries.

The lobby claims that taxing wine according to alcohol content is nonsensical, because the amount of alcohol in a particular vintage is of secondary importance in the overall quality of the product. This is quite different to spirits, according to the CFCV, where "the alcohol content is of primary importance throughout the distillation process".

Moreover, the CFCV is wary of the powerful spirits lobbies, and of the forthcoming British presidency of the community. Britain has no particular reason to stand up for the interests of the French wine industry, although the question of taxing cider as a wine, already highly emotive in Britain, could produce an unlikely Franco-British alliance against any commission proposal.

□ Another area where the commission is being curiously reticent is over the liberalisation of postal services. A green paper on the subject has now been delayed for over

six months. Last week, Yves Cousquer, president of La Poste, the French postal monopoly, warned the commission against "a hasty and irreversible liberalisation".

M Cousquer has written to Jacques Delors, president of the commission, asking for Brussels to recognise the need for a comprehensive postal service and not one that abandons non-profitable areas, such as rural deliveries.

"We are not opposed to a gradual liberalisation, but on condition that it does not threaten the universal supply of services and the existence of the operators who provide them," M Cousquer said.

The green paper is stuck somewhere between the commission's telecommunications and competition directorates, two departments that rarely see eye to eye.

Filippo Maria Pandolfi, the telecommunications commissioner, has shown, with his high-definition television portfolio, that he is prepared to protect Eurochampions; Sir Leon Brittan has made it clear he wants postal monopolies broken up as quickly as possible.

□ Captains of industry in The Netherlands, Luxembourg, Belgium, Spain and France said they have cut their investment plans by 5 per cent, while those in Britain and Portugal have cut theirs by 15 per cent and 20 per cent respectively.

The commission's economic analysts attribute this reticence to weak export demand and general overcapacity in manufacturing facilities.

□ In a separate survey, the commission has found the level of savings in the community rising, by about 3.3 billion euros (£2.3 billion) last October from a year earlier. The figures, compiled by European Savings Bank Group, do not include Britain.

TOM WALKER

Bark and bite needed in boardrooms



Not wanted on board: campaigner Noel Falconer

What were the non-executive directors doing in the Maxwell firms? Or in Barlow Clowes or B&C or BCCI or British Aerospace, or any of a dozen businesses where they should have raised the alarm? For their private function is the protection of investors' interests, ultimately by sounding a tocsin on corporate folly or malfeasance.

Failure to do this is more than an accumulation of individual weaknesses — there must be a systematic reason for it. The common factor is that the wrong sort of people were in these key positions. Some breeds just aren't watchdogs. Basenjis don't bark.

Why, then, did the shareholders appoint them?

They had no option. Literally. Electing the person you prefer instead of the choice of the incumbents involves three steps, each difficult. You cannot add your man to a list of candidates nor even propose an amendment in his favour — the motion always specifies re-appointment, while a newcomer would simply be appointed.

So, first, you must nominate him. Apart from following without assistance, a process that can be tricky in unpublished ways, this requires a hundred signatures, and leaves you liable for all expenses involved in circulating your motion. These can be high, for companies need not enclose this with their other AGM papers; more subtly, these documents are filled and tailored to fall marginally inside a postal weight limit, so that adding a one-line motion involves printing a cream-laid A4 page and paying extra postage, to perhaps hundreds of thousands or millions of votes.

Next you defeat the board's candidate. The case for him will be set out with its motion, but there is no provision for your objections. Further, if at the AGM you attempt to compare him with your man, you

Noel Falconer says the rules should be changed to elect truly independent non-executive directors

will be ruled out of order, on the ground that the latter is not part of the proposal.

Voters not present are encouraged to submit proxies. Their standard wording allows the proxy holder, who is almost always the chairman, to vote them as he pleases in the absence of specific directions. Consequently, if a proxy vote is cast on any motion, the holder can use it on all the others.

Rarely is this enormous advantage relevant. Most shares are held by pension funds and the like, so ultimately are owned by their multitudinous contributors. They are, however, voted by a tiny number of managers — who, naturally, admire and support the similarly titled gentlemen who run businesses — and propose compatible clones as non-executive directors.

Usually both are right. Strategies are best implemented by teams of like-minded people — and these clones can be inadequate in this role but competent, distinguished even, otherwise.

Questioning, outspoken non-executives come into their own only when the executives are flawed in judgment or probity and thus the very people least likely to appoint them. While they are then valuable indeed, sufficiently so to justify their inclusion on all boards, it is unrealistic to expect a fund manager, hard-pressed to achieve gains within months, to appreciate this and vote for your candidate.

Success in these two steps allows you to propose him. The board must distribute your justification, up to

1,000 words, but you are responsible for the costs, while an unlimited rebuttal is charged to the company.

The overall effect is that bad executives can insulate weak or complicitous non-executives precisely where strong ones are essential. Replacing these requires the support of the institutions, which cannot be mobilised until gross damage becomes blatant.

They could make themselves more aware of the importance of truly independent non-executives of challenging characters who will work to discover what is happening in a firm, and seek these out and press them on the boards that least want them. They could. But will they?

A revision of company law, difficult as this is, is more feasible. The familiar procedures of our parliamentary elections should become mandatory for the appointment of non-executive directors. Further, there is a case for the equivalent of universal franchise — the assignment, for this purpose, of one vote to each shareholder, rather than each share. Fund managers deserve total power no more than the aristocracy. Discretionary proxy must be limited to explicit motions.

Our great concerns are out of our control. Where, uncommonly, the integrity and wisdom of the leadership fails, we detect it at best in time to patch it. We need people in the boardroom with the power to ferret out such failure early enough to correct it. And we need better electoral arrangements to put them there.

The author headed the shareholder movement in *BJ/Rover* through its near-nationalised years, and stood without the least success for its board and that of *British Gas*; and was frustrated in his efforts to stand in *British Telecom* and *North-West Water*.

Club Med goes upmarket via a holiday revolution

FROM ROBERT BALLANTYNE IN OPLO, PROVENCE

DOWN in the Midi, on a hilltop with views to the Baie des Anges, Europe's third-largest holiday company is starting a revolution and recovering from a war. Club Med, one of France's best-known brands after Perrier and the fashion houses, is going upmarket. In a country where image is all, the company is fine-tuning its brand for the international client. And the changes are being pushed through despite the company making its first loss last year.

Club Med, which in the Fifties offered Parisians cheap access to the Mediterranean, grew into a cult in the Sixties and Seventies, with grass huts on the beach and beads for money. In the Eighties, Club Med boomed with the rest of the package holiday business — very chic, very trendy, very French.

The new upmarket international Club Med represented

by the conference centre at Oplo near Nice has the beads replaced by a "smart card" credit card. Of grass huts, there is no sign; instead, the designer holiday village boasts extensive sports and conference facilities.

Other recent expansion includes the launch of Club Med 1, the world's largest sailing cruise liner. But the company has been hard hit by the effects of the Gulf war. Soon after its 40th anniversary, Club Med in 1991 returned its first loss of Fr17 million against a profit of Fr395 million the previous year. The company went into the airline business by buying Minerve, creating the largest French charter airline and writing off Fr138 million.

Serge Trigano, the company's chief operating officer, told journalists at Oplo this weekend the Minerve operation was "a disaster". He said: "We thought it was a

good idea to enter the airline industry ourselves. It wasn't." Bid-proof, Club Med certainly isn't. M Trigano openly admits, especially after such disastrous results.

But one senior member of Club Med's staff half-jokingly referred to the board's "poison pill" — 72-year-old Gilbert Trigano, Serge's father, still in control as chairman, chief executive and managing director after almost 30 years.

His son does not attempt to hide the damage Club Med has sustained. "We do not want another year like last year," he said. "We want to be part of the future."

Coupled with the losses, all the changes — the designer image, more international customers and an expensive move upmarket — have put Club Med's management in the firing line. But as the French know, that's the trouble with revolutions...

Russia and Ukraine near currency deal

FROM ROBERT SEELY IN KIEV

RUSSIA and Ukraine, the inheritors of Soviet power, have moved closer to establishing separate financial and banking systems for their republics.

Parliamentary delegations from the countries met in Kiev to draft mechanisms for the introduction of the hryvna, Ukraine's currency, expected in the spring. The delegations also laid proposals for setting cross-accounts between the Russian-dominated rouble zone, which will include all of the former Soviet republics, and Ukraine.

The Russian deputies denied their republic was working towards the introduction of its own national currency. Valeriy Shukov, a Russian MP, said the rouble had risen recently against the dollar, prompted by the flood of dollars on to the market in Russia to buy roubles for upcoming privatization sales. The draft Ukraine-Russian

document proposed that all roubles in the republics at the time of the Soviet Union's demise be recognised as the property of those republics.

The price for Ukraine's national bank waiving rights to emit roubles as payment of credits to enterprises, was Russia agreeing to recommend a clearing system through which the Commonwealth national and commercial banks could exchange roubles for Ukraine's national currency.

Ukraine's agreement to this binds it to develop the coupon, a surrogate currency that has been used to protect its market, into a fully fledged currency before the introduction of the hryvna. After the hryvna appears in the republic in late spring, all roubles retained in private bank accounts will be automatically transferred to the Ukrainian currency at pre-set rates.



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Scottish Enterprise

Soft commission and smell tests

Peter Rawlings' smell test seems like an idea whose time has arrived. The chief executive of the London Stock Exchange launched it last week before an audience of pension industry professionals who could probably all use it to advantage in the post-Maxwell era. "How does it smell to the outsider?" should be a constant thought in the securities business, he suggested.

Rawlings' first choice of a suitable case for treatment was the so-called soft commissions paid by fund managers to brokers. His misgivings are widely shared. Why should agency brokers or securities houses wish to provide research, screen data bases or other goods to fund managers in return for guaranteed volumes of stock trades rather than receive conventional commission payments? The presumption must be that it is to their economic advantage. But exactly how is a grey area that does not lend itself easily to closer examination.

Integrated houses with market-making and securities arms could use this lack of transparency to cross-subsidise broking operations by transacting the resulting business through their in-house market-makers. Claims are often heard that "softing" permits predatory pricing which is obscured by the exchange of services for guaranteed business.

Providers of soft commission deals may feel able to capture a larger share of business through a sense of obligation that comes with the soft commission. Fund managers, too, may gain by not reflecting the cost savings brought by softing in reduced fees to clients. And the largest grey area of all is whether or not fund managers compromise their duty to deal on best terms for clients because they are influenced by soft commission arrangements. Softing is not transparent or easy to police for covert corrupt practice. As the Securities and Investments Board mulls over its misgivings, it should reflect that the practice does not fare well under the smell test.

Profit squeeze

The ERM is bad for profits. No surprise there for those who think sterling went in at too high an exchange rate. According to an intriguing study by the Nomura economics team, however, profits would grow more slowly in future regardless of the entry rate. They found a remarkable correlation between movements in sterling and the share of profits in national output since 1975. Regular double-digit profit growth in the Eighties depended on a rising share of profit linked to sinking sterling. A stable pound within a strong European currency zone points therefore to the share of non-oil profit in output stabilising or falling, leaving profits to grow at a pace closely linked to money output. The cumulative squeeze could be dramatic.

Sterling has tended to fall in booms and rise after the monetary brakes have been put on. The statistical link between output growth and profits since 1975 has, however, been looser and the economist Michael Kalecki, after a long-term analysis in the Fifties, concluded that there was no systematic link between economic cycles and the share of profit. Nomura's explanation for the currency link is that a falling pound, which makes imports less competitive, allows domestic producers to raise profit margins. The effect on listed company profits is much greater, thanks to the translation of foreign currency profits. The currency effect can be offset, as it has been in some other countries, by innovation or rapid cost response to a rising exchange rate. Britain has not been good at that.

Lord Cobbold sees 1994 as the last date for monetary realignment to avoid confusion over ecu rates

The timetable agreed at Maastricht for European monetary union looks as risky as a tightrope across Niagara Falls. In Britain, the crescendo of pre-election promises is threatening the fragile all-party commitment to non-inflationary growth. From the daily torrent of electoral bribery, we seem hell-bent on rebuilding the fires of inflation.

The rigours of convergence are, however, being felt far beyond Britain. The Germans are wrestling with the crash absorption of the former East Germany. Higher interest rates imposed by the Bundesbank to stall inflation have already dragged weaker European monetary system currencies to uncomfortable heights for the health of their domestic economies.

France has endured ten years of pain to stamp out inflation and now faces record unemployment and political self-doubt. Italy struggles with its budget deficit and its towering public sector. The nine economies with currencies in the European exchange-rate mechanism, let alone the two outside it, look distinctly wobbly as they dip to the tightrope. Will they make it to the other side with the EMS in its present shape or is some realignment inevitable and perhaps even desirable? Whatever happens, the length of the transition period agreed at Maastricht has ensured the subject of realignment will not go away until the tightrope is crossed.

Unfortunately, governments and central banks cannot join publicly in the debate over the merits or otherwise of a re-alignment within the EMS prior to the final fixing of parties. Indeed, they make strenuous efforts to stamp out discussion whenever the subject is raised.

There is something like a consensus in financial markets that a return to repetitive and competitive devaluation within the system would be disastrous. Unilateral devaluation from the pegged level would seriously undermine the commitment of the government concerned to defeat inflation.

This would not, however, be the case with a general realignment that was seen to be justified by economic circumstance, particularly if it were



seen as a final adjustment before the irrevocable fixing of rates. For the financial markets, it would be preferable for accumulated structural imbalances within the ERM economies to be reduced by a general realignment of parties rather than to risk a Thirties-style depression or a collapse of the system.

Under the Maastricht timetable, the earliest date for a fixing of exchange rates and a common monetary policy is the beginning of 1997, when stage three of economic and monetary union starts. Under the convergence tests, aspiring currencies must have kept within normal fluctuation margins within the ERM for at least the two previous years, without devaluing against any other member's currency.

In practice, the start of stage two in 1994 therefore looks the last chance for a final realignment. As it happens, 1994 is also the scheduled year for the next quinquennial revision of the ecu basket. This leaves two years for tightrope walking. Any concerted change after that would be politically impossible, if the stage three timetable is to be preserved.

Any realignment would no doubt come suddenly and, if the authorities apply their customary skill, when least expected. Now is therefore the time to put in a plea on behalf of the consumer. The European currency unit, though proposed as the common currency for Europe, is one of the least user-friendly

UNFRIENDLY ECU

Mark	ECU central rate
French franc	2.05888
Pound	8.95636
Italian lira	0.936936
Dutch guilder	1536.24
Belgian franc	2.33634
Spanish peseta	42.4032
Danish krone	136.483
Irish punt	7.88567
Greek drachma	200.483
Portuguese escudo	177.483

PROPOSED NEW CENTRAL RATES

Mark	Value ECU	% change
French franc	2	+2.7
Pound	0.7	-1.5
Italian lira	1600	-4.0
Dutch guilder	2.3	+0.7
Belgian franc	42	+0.8
Spanish peseta	140	-4.7
Danish krone	8	-2.0
Irish punt	0.8	-4.2
Greek drachma	220	-7.1
Portuguese escudo	200	-11.8

nominations, weights and sizes could become the planning standard for the ecu and would be usable as a starting stock of ecu notes and coins at stage three. The logistics of producing notes and coins for the new single currency were left vague at Maastricht.

What of the other currencies? There are several possibilities ranging from simply knocking off a few decimal places to a more systematic general realignment. An example of the latter is shown in the table. The ecu is here valued at £0.7, so that a 10 ecu note would bear the sterling equivalent of £7.

The seven times table is not the easiest but it is one the British are going to have to get used to even if no changes are made. Even if the ecu remained at £0.666666, rule-of-thumb calculations would be made at seven.

A special feature of this particular modest realignment is the relationship between the pound, the franc and the peseta. One pound would equal Fr10 and Pta200. If the three countries managed to match up their note and coin issues during stage two, usage of the pound/franc/peseta would cover 44 per cent of the Community's population and could provide a competing alternative to the ecu/mark.

This might appeal to the Treasury's former attachment to competing currencies and the evolutionary approach. Other combinations are possible given greater percentage realignments.

Whatever the chosen solution, the problem of selling the ecu to Europe's 340 million consumers needs to be addressed. Politicians should ensure that if a realignment becomes necessary, it is used as an opportunity to put some common sense into the ecu parity structure. They might even discover that simplifying the system becomes a politically popular justification for a realignment.

If the ecu is to win acceptance and not go the way of the pound, it must be made more user-friendly. For the Community's finance ministers, as they dip to the tightrope to 1994, a simpler system could provide a safety net above the gorge below.

The author is managing director of Galacorp UK Ltd.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Redmayne stays serious

RICHARD Redmayne, top corporate financier at County NatWest — and, as such, the man who bought Rowntree for Nestlé, created Monument Oil and Gas, raised the original finance for Euro-tunnel, and secured the refinancing package for Davies & Newman — knew that his days with the firm were numbered when a £1 million fee he had personally earned for the group, after a particularly long and arduous transaction, was obliterated, a few hours later, by the announcement of a loss of more than £50 million by the investment bank as a whole. "I suddenly realised that that was equivalent to me doing 50 deals, and I saw the futility," he says. Redmayne, aged 53, and a father of five, today starts work at Smith New Court. "There are perhaps nine serious players left in corporate finance, and of those only two are independent: Cazenove and Smith New Court," Redmayne adds. He had effectively been with County NatWest — via Fielding Smith, which CNW bought — for 25 years. Redmayne, who is also a director of TV-am, admits, however, that the most difficult deal he has ever completed was the withdrawal of a vineyard he owns in Provence from a local co-operative agreement. The wine it produces, which he described as "sporting and pink", has improved dramatically, in both quality and quantity, in the past two years. "In the co-operative days, I used to say that I gave a case of wine to my very good friends, and two cases to my enemies," he says.



"By staying in the same house we have been moving down-market."

Royal flush

THE senior management at Royal Insurance, which saw its shares fall 35p on Thursday after its results — with losses of £373 million and no final dividend — certainly have a comprehensive understanding of the insurance market. The company also revealed that, because of the recession and the impending general election, it had effectively insured against a stock market crash or any other sharp fall in its share price by placing put options last autumn "to protect the firm's balance sheet". The chief executive of Royal Insurance is, of course, one Richard Gamble.

Select club

AN elite, new club — of sorts — is forming among banking lawyers in the City. Not many people know about it yet, and to belong you have to court the friendship of law firm Watson, Farley and Williams. For, with its banking consultant Derek Wheatley, QC, acting as chairman for the

occasion, the firm is now half way through an initial series of five seminars on topical and controversial legal issues, with the guest speaker in each case being carefully selected as the one individual most able to influence future events. "Those attending can then not only hear the latest news from the horse's mouth, but may be able to influence future events," says Wheatley. Guests thus far have been Michael Burn, the Department of Environment official most concerned with the EC directive on civil liability for waste and said to have Michael Heseltine's ear, and Martin Karmel, the BBA official most concerned with the new, still controversial code on good practice. Next in line, on March 5 — and proving the most popular by far — is Irene Dornier, a Midland Montagu director and legal adviser, who led the bank in the recent Hazel vs Hammen-Smith Council swaps case, where the House of Lords ruled that councils could walk away from bargains freely made — and owing a number of banks huge sums of money — because they had no power to enter into them. The ruling is the subject of much continuing litigation.

Hake's progress

THE top-rated analysts in the building sector had better be on their guard — a young upstart at Nikko Europe looks set to topple them from their perch. Mark Hake, aged 27, and ranked a lowly 12th in Exel's league table at present, has just won a magnum of Moët and Chandon for coming top in an annual share-tipping competition run by Building Magazine. Hake, who had never entered

before, was one of six analysts invited to take part in the contest and his winning stocks — Hepworth and Persimmon — outperformed not just those of the other analysts (one of whom, Kevin Cammack, at Smith New Court, is ranked fifth by Exel), but also the FT-SE 100 index. "It is particularly pleasing, given the state of the building industry at the moment," says Hake. His tips for the current year are already showing a healthy premium. Spring Ram has risen from 140p to 160p, and Raine, the house-builder, is up from 120p to about 130p. "But there's a long way to go yet," says Hake cautiously.

Bill's round

GIVEN the present animosity between the British and Australians, it is interesting timing for the arrival today of Bill McLennan at the Central Statistical Office, the government's principal statistical supplier. McLennan, an Australian and previously deputy head of the Australian Bureau of Statistics, succeeds Sir Jack Hibbert, 60, who retired from the top CSO job on Saturday, after 42 years as a civil servant. Sir Jack, known for being reserved and abstruse, could not be more different to his successor. Staff at the CSO have been advised that McLennan, true to national type, is robust, outgoing and has a penchant for beer and, curiously, Jaffa oranges. If McLennan has been similarly doing his homework, he will have discovered his staff have a penchant for palindromes. The CSO officially became a government agency on 19/11/91 and Hibbert's retirement was, of course, on 29/12/92.

CAROL LEONARD

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REPORTING THIS WEEK

City expects fizz from Cadbury Schweppes

JOHN Campbell, at County NatWest, expects the full-year figures from Cadbury Schweppes, the confectionery and soft drinks group that is chaired by Sir Graham Day, to be "comfortably up" when they are announced on Wednesday. County is looking for a 10.9 per cent advance in pre-tax profits to £310 million, while market forecasts range from £305 million to £316 million.

Mr Campbell predicts that earnings per share will rise 5.5 per cent to 26.7p, with a 7.8 per cent improvement in the net dividend to 12.4p. Improved margins should ensure increased profits from Coca-Cola and Schweppes's soft drinks. "Steady progress" is expected in Europe, helped by acquisitions, while America and the Pacific rim is expected to show only modest overall progress.

TODAY

Interim: Domestic & General Group.
Finals: ASW Holdings, Bilton (J), Doelers, Harrington (Kilbuck), Lillieshall, Thorpe (FW), Unidare, United Plantations Africa.

Economic statistics: London sterling certificates of deposit (January); monetary statistics (including bank and building society balance sheets) (January); bill turnover statistics (January); shipping commercial paper (January).

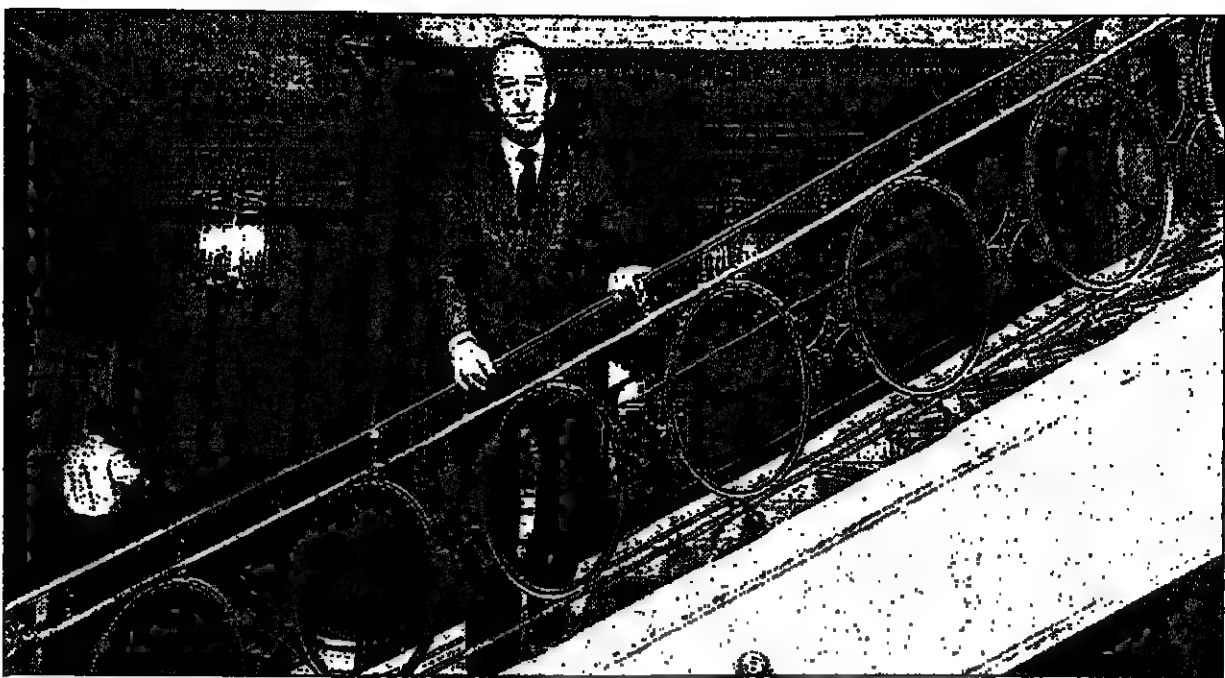
TOMORROW

Abbey National, the building society-turned-bank, which is headed by Peter Birch, should provide some relief for the City with slightly higher profits after the recent depressing results from the big banks. UBS Phillips & Drew has pencilled in final pre-tax profits of £620 million, up from £582 million last time.

Earnings per share are forecast to climb to 31.6p (28.8p), with a dividend of 10.5p (9.5p). Market forecasts range from £610 million to £630 million. P&D says that expected bad debts of £135 million and an exceptional BCCI provision of £10 million will restrict profits growth to about 6.5 per cent.

Pisons, the pharmaceuticals and garden products group, should report a fall in final pre-tax profits to £190 million (£230 million), according to Andrew Porter at Nikko, the Japanese securities house. Market forecasts range from £180 million to £192 million.

Fisons has partly recovered from a rough ride. The group was affected by the American Food and Drug Administration's criticism of its production of Tilade, the new asthma drug, a lengthy FDA ban on two other products



Lower profits expected: Cyril Stein, chairman of the Ladbroke hotels and betting shops group

and the resignation of John Kerridge, the former chairman and chief executive, which was blamed on ill health. Patrick Egan stepped in for the time being as executive chairman, but the market still awaits news on who will be chief executive.

Bid speculation has also swirled around the firm, with

some analysts hinting that it lacks the financial muscle to avoid having to merge its drugs business or hive off non-drug units.

Analysts expect General Accident to unveil full-year pre-tax losses of £150 million to £185 million, compared with losses of £121 million last time. Mortgage guaran-

tee losses of £45 million are expected for 1991, along with subsidence claims of about £40 million.

Interim: Hays, Intereurope Technology Services, Micronim Reprographics, Pifco Holdings. Finals: AAF Investment Corporation, Abbey National, Barnfield, Commercial Bank of London, Cowie (T), Expanet International, Fisons, General Accident, Grahams Pintout Investment Trust,

Gresham Telecomputing, GT Chile Growth Fund, Hampden Homecare, Intem, Serco Group. Economic statistics: UK official reserves (February).

WEDNESDAY

Richard Johnson, at Credit Lyonnais Laing, expects the final pre-tax profits at BICC, the cables and construction group, to fall to £110 million,

against £182.5 million last time, reflecting generally depressed conditions across the board. Mr Johnson forecasts that earnings per share will slide to 23.4p (40.3p), although the dividend should be maintained at 19.3p. Market profit forecasts range from £90 million to £125 million.

County NatWest Wood-Mac expects GKN, the engineering group, to announce a 53 per cent slump in final pre-tax profits to £80 million, reflecting depressed underlying trading conditions. However, County says the dividend should be maintained at 20.5p. Market forecasts range from £80 million to £90 million.

Interim: Bailey (Bar) Construction, Galliford (Haggas (John), Sincalr (William) Holdings. Finals: BICC, British Polythene Industries, British Vite, Cadbury Schweppes, City & Commercial Investment Trust, GKN, Heywood Williams, Intrum Justitia, Metal Sullein, Stal-Plus Group, Templeton, Galbraith & Hansberger, Victoria.

Economic statistics: Overseas travel and tourism (December); advance energy statistics (January); details of employment, unemployment, earnings, prices and other indicators.

THURSDAY

Ladbroke, the Hilton hotels to betting shops group chaired by Cyril Stein, is expected to report final pre-

tax profits down to £210 million, against £305.6 million last time, according to Kleinwort Benson. Market forecasts range from £170 million to £215 million.

Rolle-Koyce, the aero-engine and power systems group that is headed by Lord Tombs, is expected to report final pre-tax profits between £50 million and £85 million, compared with £176 million last time. Most expect the dividend to be maintained at 7.25p, although there are some fears of a cut. There may be an announcement of the long-expected £500 million Cathay Pacific order.

Interim: Brierley Investments, Faine Industries, Penishaw, Finsale Anglo American Industrial Corp, Fleming Mercantile Investment Trust, French Property Trust, Ladbroke Group, Life Sciences International, More O'Ferrall, MTL Instruments Group, MTM, Northern Engineering Industries, Penland Group, Pentos, Radius, Readymix, Rolls-Royce, Sama Group, Shires Investment, Singapore Pan-European Investment Trust, Singer & Friedlander, TLS Range. Economic statistics: Cyclical indicators for the UK economy (January - second estimate).

FRIDAY

Finals: Latin American Investment Trust, TV-am. Economic statistics: Housing starts and completions (January); UK balance of payments (fourth quarter).

PHILIP PANGALOS

Six vie for analyst of year title

SIX candidates have been shortlisted for the "Analyst of the Year 1991" award. The contest is part of the Coopers Deloitte Etc Awards, which are co-sponsored by The Times.

The six are Geoffrey Douglas and Mary Fleming of Smith New Court, Penny Freer of County NatWest, Andrew Holland of BZW, John Howlman of Hoare Govett, and Mitchell Tenger of Albert E Sharp.

The award will be voted on by companies only, and will reflect the esteem in which the analysts are held by senior executives. The winner may be an individual or a member of a team. The award will be made as much for the accuracy of forecasts as for in-depth studies of strategy and management.

Graham Cole, a corporate finance partner at Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, said: "Competition in this category has been intense. In a turbulent economy, an analyst's mettle is tested to the full."

The awards are due to be presented on March 19 at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London.

PHILIP PANGALOS

THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY

The One Hundred and Sixty-Sixth Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held in the Head Office, 3 George Street, Edinburgh, on Tuesday 24 March 1992 at 2.30pm.

A member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote. A proxy need not be a member.

By Order of the Board of Directors
A S BELL
MANAGING DIRECTOR

EDINBURGH, 20 FEBRUARY 1992

Standard Life

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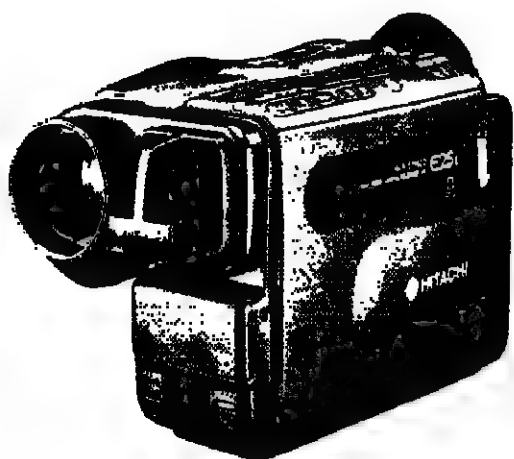


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Accounts 'key to low-cost capital'

FEW senior businessmen are better qualified to comment on financial issues facing British industry than Donald Main, the finance director of Forte, the hotels group. A former chairman of the influential 100 Group of Finance Directors, he is one of two representatives from industry on the Accounting Standards Board (ASB), which is busy overhauling the principles governing the drawing-up of company accounts.

Mr Main has outlined a vision for global capital markets that would allow British companies to tap the cheapest and most appropriate source anywhere in the world. He sees his work at the ASB as vital in the movement towards genuinely international capital markets. In particular, ASB recommendations aimed at reducing the number of options available to finance directors on controversial issues, such as accounting for goodwill, should make British accounts more user-friendly for international investors, he says.

"Do we want to produce accounts using principles acceptable to American, French and German investors? If you believe in international capital flows, I believe we must."

Many Continental companies are learning this lesson, Mr Main says. "In this country, too, we should not ignore international dimensions." He also argues that, within the European Community, a natural extension of free capital flows is a corporate Ecu bond market.

He is disappointed that few companies have so far issued in Ecu, given that many larger European companies have income and assets in most big European countries. The signal for opening the corporate Ecu market could be when German interest rates begin to turn, bringing relative stability and security to currency markets.

Mr Main believes this will happen during 1992, and he would "not be surprised to see in the last quarter of this year, Ecu issues from a number of UK corporates."

Mr Main also says there is room for a liquid domestic sterling bond market for British corporate borrowers other than the traditional brewers and property companies. One reason for the failure of British industry to perform as well as it might has been, he says, the lack of "longer-term finance at attractive rates".

British companies should also change their reluctance to grant security to investors in return for finer rates.

JONATHAN PRYNN

BA seeks companion to share worldwide travel

Airlines are having to become increasingly global. Philip Robinson examines the possible partners that could help Britain's highly profitable flag carrier to spread its wings

Lord King has always been an optimist and an astute negotiator, and the apparent collapse last week of talks aimed at merging British Airways, where he is chairman, and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Holland's flag carrier, is not thought to be the end of the matter.

The airline business is becoming a game for global players and Europeans feel increasingly threatened by the big American carriers now making significant progress in EC markets.

Some in the City think the BA-KLM hangar door is still ajar and point out that the occasional corporate tantrum in talks which have taken five months can be a useful negotiating tool.

From public statements, the final stumbling block is over ownership of the merged airline. KLM wants 40 per cent. Those close to the talks say BA wants to push that figure down to 25 per cent. But BA is likely to settle for a 70-30 split, to reflect that it is almost three times the size of KLM.

An international deal is crucial for BA, if it is to become a world player rather than fade into a regional operator in the shadow of the major US operators. A deal with KLM would give it a much larger entry into the crucial American market through the Dutch airline's stake in Northwest.

John Dasburg, chief executive of Northwest, said: "We have an ongoing strategic and marketing alliance with our partner KLM that is very productive for both companies. The BA-KLM announcement has no bearing on our relations with KLM."

"Had the two European airline consummated an agreement, we may have considered some form of participation in the transaction. On the surface, such a strategic alliance may have made sense for all parties."

Almost 30 months ago, BA was on the verge of a \$750 million investment, which would have given it a 15 per cent stake in America's second largest airline to create the most powerful carrier in the world. It was set to be part of the management buyout of United Airlines but protectionism intervened, and the whole deal collapsed sparking a mini-Wall Street crash of October 1989 when the market fell almost 200 points in a day.

Since then United has become one of the largest airlines in the world, adding the routes into Heathrow and services to Latin America of the now defunct Pan American Airways to its own American and Pacific routes.

BA is still looking for the right deal and both time and opportunities are running out. An attempt to create a Euro giant with KLM and the Belgium carrier Sabena collapsed just over a year ago. But Lord King says he has much more up his sleeve. A deal a week comes into BA and he says he will now move forward with those shelled while the KLM talks took place.

His major problem remains one of how to crack the American market. Analysts say the recession has polarised 15 top American carriers. The market is now dominated by three big airlines at the top, an odd assortment in the middle range (several under the care of the bankruptcy court) and at the bottom of the rung, tiny regional carriers.

They say equity deals with the big three — American Airlines, United and Delta — are out. The debt of Continental, TWA and America West all look unattractive and the others



Globetrotter: Lord King is searching for the deal that is best for British Airways

are too small. USAir, which is set to run the Boston-New York-Washington commuter shuttle formerly owned by Donald Trump, has always been the one favoured by Wall Street as most likely to extend existing strong

'British Airways is still looking for the right deal. However, both time and opportunities are running out'

links with BA. But the company line consistently denies such moves.

Low on the list is the highly profitable, but regional, Alaskan Air and the Dallas-based Southwest, a no-frills flyer run by Herbert Kelleher, the idiosyncratic entrepreneur who has painted some of his planes to

resemble killer whales and has been known to board them dressed as an Easter Bunny or Leprechaun. His company motto is "20 Years of Loving You".

Mr Kelleher refuses to allow tickets to be sold through a travel agent's computer and insists passengers book directly through the airline's own system. The tickets could be mistaken for supermarket till receipts. Last year, Southwest saw net income drop by \$20 million to \$26.9 million on an 18 per cent rise in total revenue of \$1.3 billion.

One analyst suggests BA could give financial backing to an entrepreneur to start a new domestic airline and build it as a feeder route to the airports BA serves internationally.

Lord King said: "The key is that when we're ready to do a deal it will be at the right price and it will be at terms that are best for the airline, its staff, customers and shareholders."

GILT-EDGED

Spending spree sets costly trap for economy

Yields on long-dated gilt-edged stocks are set to rise sharply. They could even reach 10 per cent in the aftermath of the election.

This depressing conclusion is attributable to the fiscal extravagance started by the public spending increases announced by Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, in the autumn statement. Over the next two years, public spending is planned to rise by nearly £20 billion. Spending on this scale over such a relatively short period makes the estimated cost of Labour's plans over five years look puny. Further spending rises on electorally sensitive areas may well be announced in the Budget. This puts the PSBR on target to exceed the American and German budget deficits as a proportion of national income.

Mr Lamont may cut the basic rate of tax by 1p or even 2p if the election outcome continues to look uncertain. The Exchequer cannot afford such tax cuts but, so far, this appears to be of little concern to gilts, presumably on the basis that anything that brings the re-election of the Tories is good for the market.

However, Mr Lamont's spending spree and the dispatch of borrowing guidelines into the Treasury bin is setting a trap for the market and the economy. This is not likely to spring until after the election. By then, conditions will be ripe for a "mini-boom" in domestic demand because of tax cuts and mortgage rate reductions. There will also be a release of pent-up spending power from industry and business, previously constrained by election uncertainty.

Up to £12 billion will be injected into the economy in a classic pre-election policy loosening. While some easing is required given the economy's depressed state, Mr Lamont's stimulus comes dangerously close to what would anyway have been an upswing, albeit modest, in the second half of this year. It is also of the wrong kind. The emphasis should be on investment rather than higher consumption induced by tax cuts, especially as any tax cuts are now unsustainable.

Mr Lamont may well be repeating the mistake of the previous Chancellor in running a pro-cyclical fiscal policy. Rather than cut taxes this year, Mr Lamont should have cut them in

last year's Budget instead of increasing them. This might at least have prevented the economy from registering the worst yearly drop in output since 1931 as well as reducing the duration of the recession.

Some might argue that even a "mini-boom" in demand is preferable to the possibility of recession becoming slump. The problem is that any upsurge in demand this year is likely to run into the balance of payments constraint. Despite recessionary conditions, the underlying visible trade deficit (excluding oil and erratic items), is running at about £1 billion a month against a modest surplus in the 1980-2 recession. Whatever the reasons for this structural deterioration, it is clear any "mini-boom" could easily double the underlying deficit.

With sterling in the ERM, any dramatic expansion in the trade deficit will put pressure on the pound and delay cuts in base rates. Indeed, rates could feasibly rise. Tokyo institutional investors regard sterling as a high-risk currency and a potential devaluation candidate. Japanese investors show little preference for investing in sterling assets even if the Conservatives return to office. They see much better value in high-yielding ERM bond markets such as Spain, and the core mark bloc.

With Britain's budget deficit out of control, gilts are unlikely to attract international investors given the heavy funding pressures this implies. Whoever wins the next election will inherit a structurally weak economy and have the task of putting right the deterioration in the budget deficit.

This means that in the 1993 Budget, taxes will have to rise and expenditure will have to be cut. The required tightening of fiscal policy, with a monetary policy that is likely to remain tight, augurs a period of unnecessary economic stagnation in 1993 after a short-lived "mini-boom" in late 1992.

Gilt yields might then be able to fall back to 9 per cent or lower, depending on whether a future chancellor is ready to cut the budget deficit. Meantime, it seems Tory economic policy is condemned to repeat itself, "the first time as tragedy, the second as farce" (with apologies to Karl Marx).

NEIL MACKINNON
Yamaichi Securities

Biblical truths on recession

From Mr David Graham

Sir, This eighty-year-old reader was fascinated and rejuvenated by the pictures you printed in *Business News* (February 21) and the articles by Matthew Bond and Anatole Kaletsky which came with them.

Those pictures quickly fished up others from my memory. Notably a cartoon in the German satirical weekly *Kladderadatsch*, at the time of the Invergoron mutiny, with cheerful British sailors singing: "God save our gracious King, while he good wages pays", and a sermon in the University church at Oxford by Canon (later Bishop) F.R. Barry. Of the sermon itself I remember nothing, but the text had unforgettable shock impact: the last verse of Ecclesiastes, chapter 18. What the preacher quoted was this: "Be not made a beggar by banqueting upon borrowing, when thou hast nothing in thy purse."

Looking it up, just now, in the Authorised Version of 1611 to verify the words exactly, I see it goes on "for thou shalt lie in wait for thine own life, and be talked on", which Barry was too sweet-natured to apply to poor Ramsay MacDonald, but which (if recent budget leaks about imminent tax cuts, paid for by borrowing, prove well founded) may come to be seen, by John Major himself, as just as clear a warning as Matthew Bond showed the example of Invergoron to have been in the decision to grant "above-inflation" pay rises to dentists, soldiers to sailors.

But no wonder Mr Parkinson is shocked.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID M. GRAHAM,
9 Vine Road,
Barnes,
SW13.

Shares NatWest owes to Maxwell pensioners

From Mr J.K. West

Sir, Your report (February 26) of the annual National Westminster shareholders meeting stated that the bank is holding £20 million of shares in Teva Pharmaceuticals which "once belonged to the Maxwell company pension funds".

I belong to British International Helicopters, which was handed over to Mr Maxwell by British Airways with government approval in 1986, and I now face the future without a pension. I am surprised that Lord Alexander of

Weedon is in any doubt about his duty regarding these shares. They have metaphorically "fallen off the back of a lorry" and should be returned forthwith to their rightful owners — the pensioners.

The NatWest and other banks knew full well that Mr Maxwell was a disreputable businessman as a result of the Leach, Stable report of 1971 and the Simpson Marshall bankruptcy of 1984.

Despite this, they lent vast amounts of money to Mr Maxwell at great profit to themselves and their share-

holders over a period of many years. The banks have been able to assess a risk before advancing a loan, but we pensioners were required by law to contribute to a pension fund which we reasonably supposed was run on our behalf by "City gentlemen".

Yours faithfully,
JOE WEST,
British International Helicopters (in Administration),
Beccles Helport,
Elburgh Airfield,
Beccles,
Suffolk.

Public spending better than tax cuts

From Mr Christopher Swain

Sir, Anatole Kaletsky (*Economic View*, February 24) may well be right that there is little difference in public perception between a PSBR of £30 billion and one of £20 billion, but would it be a worthwhile exercise, politically or economically, to use the extra £10 billion to cut 5p off income tax? I suspect that there is much less support for tax cuts nowadays than there was in the 1980s, and a corresponding increase in concern about lack of resources in the public sector, the recession and unemployment. The general economic situation and uncertainty about employment also lead one to doubt whether a tax cut is the best way to promote even a consumption-led recovery. Mr Kaletsky notes

that a 5p tax cut could easily be reversed by a Labour chancellor to the benefit of pensions and social benefits in particular. Why not therefore pre-empt such a move and raise pensions substantially? This would have more certain feed-through into consumers' expenditure and with less of an import effect than an income tax cut. If Mr Lamont were to take Mr Kaletsky's advice and effectively give the electorate the choice between a tax cut and Labour's preference for greater public expenditure, he would be likely to get a disappointing answer.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER SWAIN,
55 Vernon's Close,
Henham,
Nr Bishop's Cleeve,
Hertfordshire.

New lease of life for an old adage

From H. Caplan

Sir, I was interested to see Edward Poof's letter to you (*Business News*, February 27) concerning the perceived vulgarity of owning a Rolls-Royce. I was reminded of the old adage "Rolls for Proles —

Bent's for Gents" and I am wondering whether it still applies — if indeed it ever did!

Yours faithfully,
H. CAPLAN,
23 Bray Court,
Windsor Road,
Maidenhead, Berkshire.

Future offices will be 'green'

From Mr Keith Chamberlain

Sir, I was surprised to read of the predictions of Mr Paul Orchard-Lisle made in his article (*Business News*, February 25).

He states that the secondary office space in the City will reach a low of £20 per square foot from a high of £45 per square foot.

I am sure Mr Orchard-Lisle is very optimistic, as I believe that most of the empty office space in the City is now redundant. By the time the market recovers (if indeed it ever does reach the high of the late Eighties) the occupiers will be looking for a new generation of buildings.

The buildings that will be demanded in the future will be "green". Green issues are no longer jargon but very real and employers will be looking for a green and, therefore, a clean and healthy environment in which to work.

Mr Orchard-Lisle and his colleagues in the RICS should not be giving ball-park figures for office rents which they cannot achieve or have any real idea of what the market will demand by the end of this year, let alone by 1996.

I will predict that the present generation of offices will be less than £10 per square foot by 1996 and the only space that will rent at realistic prices will be new generation green buildings.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH CHAMBERLAIN,
Chamberlain House,
West Street,
Marlow,
Buckinghamshire.

Letters to *The Times Business and Finance* section can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.



GIORGIO ARMANI

178, Sloane Street, London

MANCHESTER

£55 million has boosted the city's Olympic aspirations, as a familiar mode of transport gets a new look. Two-page report by Ronald Faux

Running on rails of hope

Manchester deals boldly with crisis. When the cotton industry voted with its looms and began to move closer to the coast, Manchester answered by moving the city via the 35-mile ship canal, one of the great feats of Victorian navigation achieved over seven years by the picks and shovels of 16,000 men. The bid to host the Olympic Games in 2000 has a similar dash of audacity and the city has welcomed £55 million of government support towards building Manchester's Olympic facilities. Announcing the government's "wholehearted" backing for the bid, John Major said that the aim was not only to win the Games for their own sake, but to use them to spearhead the regeneration of east Manchester.



John Glesler: confident

Great schemes, public and private, are afoot for the regeneration of the city centre, the expansion of the airport and the development of Trafford Park and Salford Quays. There is a sense that the recession has not touched Manchester as much as other parts of Britain, although the Olympic emblem on the city hall stands above a sign advertising a mortgage debt helpline.

The irony is not lost on Graham Stringer, leader of the Labour-controlled city council. There, he says, too much poverty and inner-city neglect. Some councillors frown on the system of development corporations through

which government money bypasses city hall, to be channelled directly into improvement schemes, but the results are clear to see. Winning the Olympic bid would be a way of supercharging that process and bringing enormous benefits to Manchester, which already ranks among the world's leading commercial and financial centres.

"The only city in the United States whose economy is growing is Atlanta, venue for the 1996 Olympics," Mr Stringer says. "Thirty thousand jobs have been created and the equivalent of more than £1 billion invested in support facilities. If that happened in Manchester it would bring back the prosperity of the 1980s."

To dismiss Manchester as a shabby relic of the industrial revolution ignores the change to which the city is committed, bringing the transport infrastructure, telecommunications facilities, cultural and service industries into line with its Olympic ambitions. The international airport, a hub of worldwide travel, the research facilities into high-technology provided by the largest academic campus in western Europe, the links to the motorway network and the developments to the rail system add up to a city able to absorb and service international investment.

A vibrant cultural life and facilities for sport and leisure already exist, but much more is planned. The £45 million for an



Making tracks for the future: Manchester's trams will offer mainline rail speeds with more passenger capacity than ever before

international concert hall, a new home for the Hallé Orchestra, is now earmarked. Manchester boasts the highest concentration of live theatre in Britain, outside London, and was recently chosen to be City of Drama for 1994. Millions are being poured into improvements within the city and although the retail, property and service sectors have been finding life tough, the North-West is judged to be suffering less than other parts of Britain.

John Glesler, chief executive of the Central Manchester Development Corporation, says one possible explanation is that fewer northerners are trapped on high mortgages, and so they have more

disposable income. The corporation expects to invest £100 million in the 500 acres of city centre that were the heart of the industrial revolution, but which were later abandoned or battered by bulldozers. This investment could generate up to £750 million in private investment by the time the corporation is wound up.

Meanwhile, on the western fringe of the city around Trafford Park and Salford Quays, an extraordinary world of towering glass buildings, factory estates, waterways and smart housing developments has opened up. Like the old industrial heart of Manchester, the docks and ship canal face a bright new future.

Trams return to the streets of Manchester this month after an absence of half a century. The "supertrams" of the £130 million Metrolink system will be fast, efficient and environmentally friendly, and a far cry from the double-deckers that once clanked through the city streets.

Out of town, they whisk train-like along British Rail lines at 50mph, then slow to a tram crawl through the city centre. Unlike the old trams that could carry a maximum of 80 passengers, the Metrolink cabins are spacious enough for 206 in comfort or 270 "crush-loaded".

The dividend, for motorists, of

traffic chaos in Manchester, as the new track was being laid, is about to be paid. When the remains of old tracks were removed, engineers discovered places where the lengths of Victorian steel were all that was holding the road together. The new trams run along welded track set in shock-absorbent material, and have wheels with rubber inserts muffling the clank of metal upon metal.

They signal their approach with a sorrowful wail. Retractable steps adjust to platform or street level and there is special access for wheelchairs. Acceleration is swift and emergency braking backed by electro-magnets that clamp on to the track will stop the tram in less

than its own length. "There is probably more risk of being injured inside the tram than outside," a Metrolink official says. Indeed, the first near-casualty on the system was the Manchester transport committee chairman, who was bowled unceremoniously down the aisle when the tram braked during a demonstration run through the city.

The object of the scheme is to ease traffic congestion by encouraging commuters to abandon their cars on the city outskirts, and so reduce pollution. The first phase, delayed for fine tuning of the system, opens between Manchester Victoria station and Bury. The aim will be to extend the service between the G-Mex exhibition centre in central Manchester and Altrincham.

A spur from Piccadilly Gardens to Piccadilly railway station should be completed by early summer.

A fund-raising effort by the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Authority has begun to extend the system to Salford Quays and Rochdale, but initially the Metrolink will give a city centre service every six minutes at peak times, whisking 10,000 passengers an hour in each direction across the city, and carrying more than 10 million commuters a year.

The fare structure will be pitched to encourage city-bound folk to leave their cars at home, but a council official explained that a condition of government funding required the company to make a surplus. This would inevitably mean that tram fares would be higher than bus fares.

The partnership of private and government capital resulted in the consortium of GBC, Mowlem, Amec and Greater Manchester Bus winning the challenge in June 1990.

When complete, Metrolink will serve 26 stations within 20 miles of the city centre. Tickets are automatically dispensed by machines and a series of closed circuit television cameras remains on permanent watch throughout the system.

A special unit of 29 officers from Greater Manchester Police has been detailed to handle security. The force turned down an offer of free transport for all police officers, however, since the intention was to encourage them to travel by tram and keep an off-duty eye on the system. Now Manchester must learn to live with trams again.

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The learning business

The city's academic resources offer industry great opportunities

With 42,000 students shared between the university, Manchester Polytechnic, the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (Umist), the Manchester Business School, and the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester lays claim to be the biggest higher education campus in western Europe. The nearby University of Salford widens the city's area of learning.

Such a volume of knowledge and high technological expertise is of great value to Manchester. Not only is the cultural and intellectual life of the city enriched, industries seeking a new base are presented with a strong incentive to choose Manchester because of the services the city's academic institutions can provide. Few areas of scientific knowledge, human understanding or practical business management are not covered by the labyrinth of courses offered by this congregation of colleges.

The university, which has the largest medical school in western Europe, contains expertise in a range of subjects as diverse as the study of Egyptian mummies, centres for excellence in telecom-

munications and novel computing, the Jodrell Bank radio telescope, and social research into child abuse and crime victimisation. Nineteen Nobel prize-winners have had connections with the university, which resists any trend towards becoming an ivory tower.

If you count everyone who comes to Manchester for some kind of tuition, including members of the public on extra-mural courses, the annual total comes to 85,000 full-time or part-time students and those who study there for self-development rather than for a particular qualification. Top quality research is costly but adds significantly to the calibre of students and there is concern about the university's ability to sustain this standard, when government policy is clearly to expand numbers, decrease staff and operate the system on less money.

With 20,000 students, two-thirds of them on full-time courses, and a student-staff ratio of 16:1, Manchester Polytechnic is the largest poly

technic in Britain. It is proud of its popularity and loyal to its traditions of making further education available to all who seriously seek it.

The poly confers degrees, has collaborative projects with universities and offers some 300 courses, from retail marketing and teacher training to engineering and the humanities.

Manchester Business School runs a Master of Business Administration (MBA) programme and in-service executive courses. On the two-year full-time MBA programme, there are 370 students, one third of them from overseas. The qualification may be taken part-time

over three and a half years. The Master of Business Management degree is a modular course spread over two years and is a consortium degree sponsored by 10 British companies. A hundred post-graduate students are on a research programme into management areas. In-service management courses for executives, run by the business school, attract about 2,500 students a year.

Umist, which has around 4,000 students, is a world-ranking technological university with particular expertise in chemical engineering and analytical science.

Companies located on the campus can exploit technology in quality assessment, integrated sensors and monitoring devices. Research grants should reach a record of £12 million, according to Professor HCA Hankins, the principal.

Olympian gold cheer

Plans for urban renewal depend heavily on the success of Manchester's bid

The £55 million government support for Manchester 2000 means work will have begun on three big sports facilities in Manchester by September 1993, when the International Olympic Committee decides which city will host the Games.

Development of Olympic facilities will be linked with the regeneration of east Manchester, and winning the Games bid will ensure renewal on a huge scale.

Delivering the Games will cost £1 billion for about 30 venues across the North-West. Fourteen exist but require adaptation, others depend on the 1993 decision. Three facilities on which work will begin before the final selection are Brit-

ain's first international stadium since 1923, with a covered velodrome alongside, and an indoor arena on a five-acre city centre site.

Manchester has already been awarded £1 million by the Foundation for Sport and the Arts towards the cost of the velodrome, and substantial investment has been pledged by the private sector. The city, bidding for the second time, is considered a strong contender, as Britain has never been awarded the Games as the result of a bid.

Other points that count in its favour are the fastest growing airport in Europe, and being at the heart of a region that claims to have more people playing or watching sport than anywhere else in the UK.

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THE BRITISH OLYMPIC BID

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MANCHESTER
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To discuss investment opportunities contact:

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Head of Economic Initiatives
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Quay to a new image

The industrial wasteland of Salford Quays receives a complete facelift

The most striking renaissance in Greater Manchester has been achieved in the docklands area of Salford Quays. They were once the third largest docks in the country, but as freighters outgrew the ship canal and containerisation revolutionised cargo handling, their use declined. By 1984 they had been reduced to 225 acres of derelict quayside and polluted waterway.

Three thousand dockers' jobs had vanished, along with those from the many firms that depended on the docks traffic. A development plan produced by the local authority harnessed every grant and scheme devised by Whitehall or Brussels and was followed to the letter, in the hope of transforming dead dockland into a living community.

John Watling, the Salford Quays project manager, points to the dramatic progress made in the three areas declared as enterprise zones. Rubble from demolished warehouses became the hardcore foundation for embankments dividing the old docks into water parks along



Material progress: the docklands development plan has resulted in a dramatic change in three enterprise zones

An airport on cloud nine

Expansion puts the North-West at the hub of international trade

A hub airport with regular links to Europe and across the Atlantic is a vital key to regional growth. The importance of Manchester International Airport to the economy of the North-West cannot be overstated, it is quoted by company after company as high among the reasons for locating in the Manchester area.

There are plans for important expansion, with a second terminal due to open next year that could double present capacity by the turn of the century, and a second runway to be completed by 1998, boosting aircraft movements from 42 flights per hour to 70.

The scale of investment is huge: about £600 million for a terminal the size of 13 football pitches able to handle up to 13 million passengers a year and £36 million for the runway. Gil Thompson, the airport's chief executive, says the objective is to have a world hub airport.

Forecasts showed that demand could outstrip capacity by one third by the mid-1990s and that a second runway would create 50,000 new jobs in the region, allowing the airport to handle 30 million scheduled and charter flight passengers a year by 2000, along with the growth of freight traffic which has increased threefold in the last decade.

The airport's development strategy looks beyond the glass and steel of the second terminal, scheduled to open in March 1993, to the likely need for a third building.

The Labour-controlled city council has a 55 per cent stake in the airport and a pragmatic attitude towards bold investment there. More than 100 airlines operate from Manchester, which returned a profit last year of £40 million.

Manchester has won the largest share of the regional market for international flights and claims to handle more internal flights than any British airport. About 30 per cent of charter flights from Britain operate from Manchester.

The runway was lengthened just before the first 747s arrived and car parking and other facilities were provided ahead of a demand that proved to be heavy.

Motorways feed directly into the airport and British Rail with the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Authority are jointly funding a £27 million electrified rail link between the airport and Piccadilly mainline station in the city centre.

The airport's position close to urban areas is a commercial blessing but an environmental curse. There is local resistance to further expansion in spite of a £10 million environmental protection programme and £1 million a year in sound insulation grants for 12,000 properties in the flightpath.

Doorway to Europe

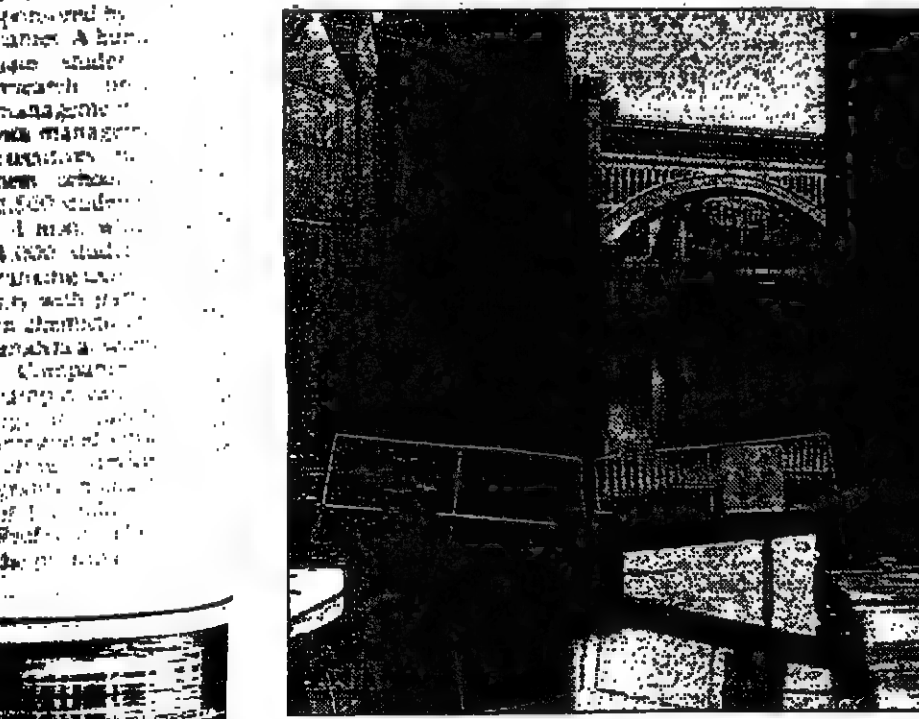
Industrial estates are not a modern invention. Trafford Park was opened in 1896 to support the ship canal and has been active ever since as a suburban production base for international companies. By the 1940s, 75,000 workers were employed in what was one of the world's most important manufacturing centres.

But demand began to change and investment dwindle, and in 1987 the Trafford Park Development Corporation was set up to secure new investment and halt the decline. The 3,000 acres earmarked for help have now received £543 million of private investment, creating nearly 3,000 new jobs. Another £150 million from the public purse will improve the infrastructure.

Trafford Park is Manchester's continental link

Recognising that enterprises now value an attractive environment, the corporation, along with Trafford and Salford councils, set about improving the facilities. Their efforts have secured more than 1,000 firms in the park.

A recent rail agreement opens the way for a direct link with the British Rail network. The agreement was under threat from objections by Trafford Park Estates to the corporation's compulsory purchase order on its own 55-acre development site designed to become the main service centre for the rest of



Reflections of another era: part of the Castlefield area developed by Jim Ramsbottom

Ripples of history

Mike Harding, songwriter, comedian and Himalayan wanderer and Jim Ramsbottom, Mancunian bookmaker, share a fascination with Manchester's neglected canals. Both men have made separate explorations of the waterways that served the industrial revolution.

After the second world war the canals were garbage strewn and stagnant, with locks and towpaths in urgent need of repair. Eight years ago Mr Ramsbottom acquired three acres of Castlefield around the point where the Bridgewater and Rochdale canals meet, where Stephenson's Rocket steamed along the world's first passenger railway. "This was the very heart of the industrial revolution and wonderful to me because I've been fascinated by local history ever since I was a schoolboy," he says.

The canals were tranquil, neglected corridors running through Manchester, a quiet

Restored canals are bringing the past to life

reserve for wildlife only yards away from the heart of the city.

Mike Harding has written a guide to Manchester's canal walks and recalls student days in the city when the canal area around Potato Wharf seemed a magical place, "full of echoes and the atmosphere of decay of an industrial city somehow going down in flames".

The Bridgewater canal, with its 92 locks, was driven into the heart of the Duke of Bridgewater's coal mines at Worsley; the Rochdale, completed in 1833, was the first canal to link the North and the Irish seas.

Mr Ramsbottom's corner of the industrial revolution, which he bought for £300,000, is already looking much improved. About £2 million of development cor-

Capitalisation, week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin February 24. Dealings end March 6. \$Contango day March 9. Settlement day March 16. \$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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134	Br Avenue	72	3	130	30	195
135	Clarkson (H)	155	10	80	10	95
136	James Hamilton	150	10	80	10	95
137	Eastman Low	450	10	80	10	95
138	James Hamilton	150	10	80	10	95
139	Eastman Low	450	10	80	10	95
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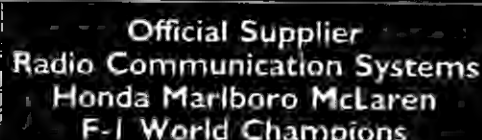
13:00	Franklin	99	+	1.1	25.48
13:00	Coast Pet	9	+	1.1	25.48
75:10	Western Res	15	-10
109:50	Hasty O & G	123	+7	...	16.8
17:50	Kell Energy	121	...	...	...
148:10	LaSho	202	+4	8.5	10.9
11:30	de-Uino	...	...	28.8	21.3
14:00	de-Uino	70	...	...	...
213:00	Memphis	19	...	...	21.6
13:00	New London	19	...	...	...
17:00	Nin San Acosta	33	...	...	9.4
17:00	Oil Sotchi	32	+2	...	...
9:57	Penncon	109	-5	1.2	4.8
34:00	Pist.Pst	66	-2	...	9.2

70.70	South Water	347	+10	17.7	6.8	5.6
54.70	South West	368	+10	20.0	7.2	5.8
78.40	Thames Water	382	+11	17.5	6.1	7.8
78.40	Works Water	400	+10	19.5	6.5	4.8
32.40	Weston Water	420	+12	17.7	5.6	6.0
80.70	Yorkshire W	406	+25	17.7	5.8	7.7

Source: Firstnet

USM: # Price at suspension; # Ex dividend; # Ex
 # Ex rights issue; # Ex alt; # Ex capital
 # Ex. on Figures or report awaited; ... No.
 # Ex. on Figures or report awaited; ... No.

Source: Firststar
 * USM: # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; § Ex rights issue; ¶ Ex alt; § Ex capital distribution; oo Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data.



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Gooch left to rue one that got off the hook as his bowlers dismiss Pakistan for 74 only to see World Cup points shared

Rain washes away England's advantage

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN ADELAIDE

THE disarming grin that spread across the features of Javed Miandad in the instant that this game was abandoned said everything necessary about a day on which England had their pockets picked just as they were about to bank their third win of the World Cup.

Miandad's career has been a triumph of adventure and escapology. Yesterday, the adventure took the form of a batting nightmare on a damp pitch for his Pakistan side.

The escape came through the sort of rain the folk of Adelaide have not seen for seven months.

England, once more bowling and fielding as cup favourites should, might well have been chasing fewer than 50. As it was, Pakistan's all-out total of 74 was still their lowest in one-day internationals and an early-afternoon finish was stated until the rain, which had fallen relentlessly on Saturday, ironically the last day of the Australian summer, returned during the lunch break.

Three hours were lost but there was then enough of a respite for the umpires to make two late efforts to complete the game. The first was foiled by a mocking shower, even as they took the field, and when at last, after complicated calculations, England resumed needing 47 from a further ten overs, they received only two of them before a halt was called.

It was, eventually, the only just course. Rain was falling steadily again and the bowlers were slipping on run-ups which, contrary to the playing conditions, had been left uncovered during the afternoon, a sad indictment of the available resources on a Test ground.

Pakistan's players were understandably grumpy at being asked to continue but Peter McConnell, the senior Australian umpire, took exception to comments passed by Salim Malik and, despite some peace-making gestures from Miandad, issued a finger-wagging lecture as the cast finally left the sodden stage.

England were obliged to settle for a share of the points but Graham Gooch was phil-

	P	W	L	NR	Pts
New Zealand	3	2	0	1	6
England	3	2	0	1	6
West Indies	3	1	1	1	3
South Africa	3	1	1	1	3
India	3	1	1	1	3
Australia	3	1	1	1	3
Zimbabwe	3	0	3	0	0

osophical. "It is frustrating when we were in such a dominant position," he said. "But I am not completely down about it because we put in another high-class performance. With the rules as they are, and no reserve days, this was always likely to happen some time."

Gooch was more concerned about the state of the Adelaide Oval pitch, which had been covered throughout Saturday's downpour and only opened to the elements at breakfast-time yesterday. In the circumstances, it was remarkable that a prompt start was possible but, as Gooch pointed out, it was not a fair contest.

"It was not the best pitch for a one-day game," he said. "It was very conducive to swing and seam bowling all day, even when we batted. I think we would have got 75 but you would not want to chase many more out there."

"There were three or four wicket-taking balls an over if you bowled in the right area which our guys did. I can only ever recall seeing similar one-day conditions, so much in favour of the bowlers, at Headingley."

Miandad, standing in again for the injured Imran Khan, was still more forthright. "This was not a one-day wicket. It was flying everywhere. You need a wicket on which a side can score around 240. That was not possible here."

If the captains concurred on that one, they were, predictably, not quite in accord on the rule used here for calculating the target score in a rain-affected game.

Under the English system, the team batting second has

simply to exceed, within their reduced number of overs, the average run-rate of the opposition. That system was scrapped here three years ago, after Australia had been unhelpfully beaten by West Indies in a World Series Cup final. Now, once the chasing team's overs have been recalculated, their target is determined by the opposition's equal number of highest-scoring overs.

What it has done is shift the advantage from the chasing team to the one with runs in the bank. It almost certainly cost India a merited win over Australia yesterday and it might conceivably have produced a farcical result here, as the best 15 of Pakistan's 40 overs brought them 62 of their 74 runs.

Miandad thought it was "fairer than the old system". Gooch said: "It seems strange that you can bowl a side out for 74 and then be chasing 63 in 15 overs. It takes some understanding. But you will never get an ideal rule and it didn't matter here, because the rain beat us anyway."

England's intention to play Allan Lamb was hurriedly revised when his hamstring trouble during pre-match fielding practice. Lewis, although carrying a side strain that prevented him bowling, was restored and Small replaced Tufnell, a casualty of the conditions.

DeFreitas took the first wicket with a long hop that Ramiz steered obligingly to cover point and, from then on, Pakistan's batting was poor. Hazardous though it was, especially against the skilful probing of Pringle and Botham, 42 for seven was a horror to which the batsmen had impulsively contributed.

Malik alone, of the top order, showed the class to cope, hitting three of the five fours in the innings. The last two wickets added 27 but seven of the team managed only eight runs between them.

Despite the early, controversial loss of Gooch to a wicketkeeping catch he evidently believed he had not hit. England would surely have won. Even Miandad thinks so. Magnanimous in escape, he also threw out a compliment. "I am sure England will qualify for the semi-finals," he said. "For the rest of us, it is a very open battle."



In their grasp: Botham congratulates Small as the England bowlers take charge in Adelaide yesterday

SCOREBOARD FROM ADELAIDE

England won toss									
PAKISTAN									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Ramiz Raja c Reeve b DeFreitas	1	6s	4s	Min	Balls				
Back foot punch to cover mid-off high					12	10			
Aamer Sohail c and b Pringle	9				32	38			
Low right-handed catch									
Inzamam-ul-Haq c Stewart b DeFreitas	0				1	1			
Edged to Hick, deflected low to Stewart									
Javed Miandad b Pringle	5				29	22			
Off-break beat push through covers									
Salim Malik c Reeve b Botham	17				45	20			
Low diving catch to right of slip									
Ijaz Ahmed c Stewart b Small	0				16	15			
Edged square cut to diving keeper									
Waqar Ahmed b Botham	1				12	13			
Ball cut back, chopped on to stumps									
Moin Khan c Hick b Small	2				25	14			
Cut hard back-high to pull									
Waqar Ahmed c Stewart b Reeve	13				46	40			
Edged outwinger low to keeper									
Mushtaq Ahmed c Reeve b Pringle	17				46	46			
Falling catch at first slip									
Aqib Javed not out	1				24	21			
Extras (lb 1, w 8, nb 1)	10								
Total (49.2 overs, 104min)	74								

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5 (Aamer 2), 2-5 (Aamer 2), 3-14 (Aamer 3), 4-30 (Salim 1), 5-32 (Salim 10), 6-35 (Salim 11), 7-42 (Main 1), 8-47 (Waqar 4), 9-52 (Miandad 6).

BOWLING: Pringle 8.2-5-3-3 (nb 1) (5-5-8.2, 0.2-0-0-1); DeFreitas 7.1-22-2 (w 7) (one spell); Small 10.1-29-2 (w 1) (5-1-19.2, 2-0-10-0); Botham 10-4-12-2 (one spell); Reeve 5-3-2-1 (one spell).

INTERMEDIATE SCORES: 10 overs: 13 runs, 20.35; 20 overs: 38 runs, 40.74.

Australia overcome India after a dramatic contest

FROM PETER ROEBUCK IN BRISBANE

FEW games, even in the illustrious history of one-day cricket, can have stretched the emotions as did this extraordinary contest between Australia and India yesterday. A contest in which, at various times, both teams appeared certain to win; a contest both teams urgently needed to win; a contest won, in the end, by Australia as India's gallant effort ended in glory but the ashes of defeat.

India lost, in effect, by a yard as Jagavallu Srinath's lusty swing at the final delivery of a final over mysteriously bowled by Tom Moody narrowly failed to bring the needed boundary. It was dropped by Steve Waugh, whose desperate throw found Venkat Raju three feet short of completing a third run to tie the game.

India's batting was as full of bravado as a cavalry charge into blazing guns. In so many ways, India's luck has been rotten this winter and it was no better here.

Rain fell for 15 minutes in the middle of their innings and, thanks to the rules, they were denied three overs batting yet were asked to score only two fewer runs. They had already been handicapped by a characteristically slow start. India posted 45 for one in 16.2 overs before the heavens opened. On the rains

relenting, they had to score 236 in 47 overs, or rather 189 in 30.4 — a formidable task and yet one which Azharuddin and Manjrekar attacked with a will.

Azharuddin's innings was brave of conception and magnificent of execution as, with a stream of magical strokes, he scored 93 off 103 balls, departing to a run out and leaving his team to chase 42 in 29 balls. Manjrekar counted two sixes and walked across his stumps to glance boundaries and, soon, 26 was needed off three overs, then 19 off two.

Incredibly, it was left to Moody to defend 13 in the final over. More at once glided two boundaries to fine leg and five were needed in four balls.

A famous Indian victory? We had reckoned without their propensity for plucking defeat from victory's very jaws. Next ball, needlessly, Moore walked across his stumps and was bowled.

Prabakar pushed a single, and four were needed in two. Srinath swung, forgot to run and his partner was run out. Four off one.

Then, Srinath swung hugely but into the wind and was dropped by long-on running to his right. India's effort to run three narrowly failed. Australia had also started slowly, Marsh scoring eight

in 28 balls before playing on. It took Dean Jones to sweep away the cobwebs by opening with a six and a four.

India fielded well and bowled accurately, for the most part, and Australia never escaped, though their batting had a more vigorous air as if they had realised they could not win this cup by method alone. They must attack, for this world is for the brave.

AUSTRALIA
M A Taylor c Moore b Kapil Dev 13
G R Marsh b Kapil Dev 8
D C Boon c Stewart b Pringle 6
M A Marsh c and b Pringle 40
S R Waugh b Srinath 29
M Moody b Pringle 15
"A R Border c Jadeja b Kapil Dev 10
C J McDermott c Jadeja b Pringle 2
P L Taylor run out 0
M G Hughes not out 0
Extras (lb 7, w 8, nb 4) 29
Total (50 overs, 50 overs) 287
M R Waugh did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-31, 3-102, 4-108, 5-108, 6-120, 7-125, 8-125, 9-127, 10-127, 11-127, 12-127, 13-127, 14-127, 15-127, 16-127, 17-127, 18-127, 19-127, 20-127, 21-127, 22-127, 23-127, 24-127, 25-127, 26-127, 27-127, 28-127, 29-127, 30-127.

BOWLING: McDermott 8-1-55-1; Waugh 10-3-54-2; Hughes 5-1-49-1; Moody 9-0-55-3; Waugh 10-0-51-1.
Man of the match: D M Jones.
Umpires: S Aldridge (New Zealand) and I Robinson (Zimbabwe).

West Indies are warming to their task

Brisbane: A month ago, Winston Benjamin and Gus Logie were, in Max Boyce's celebrated phrase, "not in the squad" (Peter Roebuck writes).

Brian Lara was a feckless middle-order batsman and Richie Richardson a beleaguered captain with a bat consisting entirely of edges and a team of nervous nellyes.

No longer. Benjamin is back and has bowled as economically as Gavin Larsen and Ian Botham.

Lara is an opening batsman of twinkling footwork, possessing a dazzling array of shots if not yet the pillars of defence, while Logie is present and correct, his arm

mended, and might find form if he stopped running himself.

Richardson seems in command of himself, and his team, and his chief worry must be fragility of temperament in the middle order.

To beat Zimbabwe, even by 75 runs, is no demanding task. Zimbabwe travel on a wing and prayer, their bowlers are medium and their batting only staunch.

But West Indies did enough to secure a second victory and persuade spectators that their demolition of Pakistan was more in character than their collapse against

the new ball, with a series of flashing strokes, all hope for Zimbabwe was gone. It was only in the closing overs that wickets fell, though Traoré and Ali Shah had kept some measure of control with spin and military medium.

Hampered by an injury to Arnott, a blow to Pycroft and the early loss of Flower, Zimbabwe flourished in reply.

WEST INDIES
P H Simmons b Brandes 21
S C Lee c Houghton b Ali Shah 72
S B Richardson c Brandes b Jarvis 58
C L Hooper c Pycroft b Traoré 68
K L T Arnotton b Duars 29
A L Logie run out 2
M D Marshall c Houghton b Brandes 5
D Williams not out 8
Extras (lb 1, w 5, nb 1, w 2) 10
Total (50 overs, 50 overs) 284
A C Campbell and S P Patterson did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-73, 2-103, 3-220, 4-221, 5-228, 6-254, 7-258, 8-258, 9-258, 10-258, 11-258, 12-258, 13-258, 14-258, 15-258, 16-258, 17-258, 18-258, 19-258, 20-258, 21-258, 22-258, 23-258, 24-258, 25-258, 26-258, 27-258, 28-258, 29-258, 30-258.

Opening flurry buoys the hosts

FROM JOHN WOODCOCK
IN AUCKLAND

TO THE delight and amazement of their supporters, there is no holding New Zealand in the World Cup at the moment. Their third successive victory, here on Saturday, brought South Africa down to earth with a nasty bump after their great day in Sydney last week. New Zealand won by seven wickets with 15.3 overs to spare, which is roughly the same as winning by seven and six over 18 holes of golf.

The same sides would play each other a dozen times and not have a second game anything like as one-sided as this one. With the outstanding exception of Kirsten, South Africa batted poorly, and when New Zealand went in, needing 191 to win, the South African bowlers also had a bad day. Four of them — Snell, Bosch, Cronje and Kuiper — conceded 107 runs in their 12.3 overs.

But that is far enough to have gone without mentioning Greatbatch, whose 68 in 60 balls as a replacement for Wright, New Zealand's injured opening batsman, swept South Africa out of the match. He quite simply hit himself into form, a time-honoured way of ending a run as bad as that which Greatbatch had during England's recent tour. With the rules of the competition requiring nine of the fielding side to be inside the circle for the first 15 overs, there is a lot of open country about, and Greatbatch exploited it.

By tomorrow, New Zealand should have beaten Zimbabwe, and be looking ahead to a place in the semi-finals, their options increased by Greatbatch's rehabilitation.

If some of the younger South Africans have been deflected by the ease with which they beat Australia, Wesels, their captain, would certainly not have been. It has not taken long, he said, for his side to "be brought back to the realities of world cricket".

With Hudson being bowled by Patel, who opened the New Zealand bowling again, and Wesels playing an "uncharacteristically" chancy stroke, South Africa, having won the toss, were soon ten for two. Kirsten's innings of 90 argued the value of experience. That the South African selectors should have left Kirsten out of their original party and not have picked Jim Cook at all does seem an indictment.

The last of New Zealand's three qualifying matches in Auckland will be against West Indies. It is a peculiar ground, which tends to disorientate visiting sides.

Imagine you are at Twickenham — Eden Park is also a rugby ground — and that cricket is being played there, the pitch placed diagonally across the field facing from northeast to southwest. It makes certain boundaries very short. It is neither a dead slow pitch nor a quick one; but it is a ground that it helps to know. West Indies will do well to take the points there next Sunday.

SOUTH AFRICA
"K C Wesels c Smith b Watson 5
A C Hirston b Patel 8
P N Kirsten c Calne b Watson 39
M J Pycroft c Smith b Hirston 70
D L Houghton c Larsen b Calne 28
A Campbell c Richardson b Hooper 1
J N Rhodes c Cronje b Calne 8
B M Macmillan not out 33
P P Stiel not out 11
Extras (lb 8, nb 1) 9
Total (7 wickets, 50 overs) 190
Eden Park did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-10, 3-23, 4-108, 5-110, 6-121, 7-125.
BOWLING: Watson 10-0-54-2; Patel 10-1-55-1; Cronje 10-0-55-1; Hirston 10-0-55-1; Calne 10-0-55-1; Rhodes 10-0-55-1; Macmillan 10-0-55-1; Stiel 10-0-55-1.

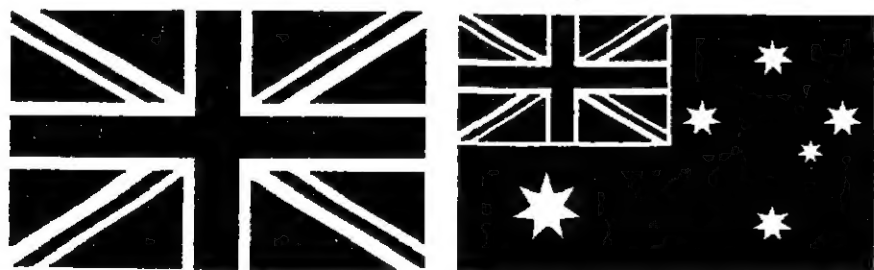
NEW ZEALAND
R J Greatbatch b Kirsten 68
M J T Latham c Wesels b Small 30
A H Jones not out 0
D S Smith c Kirsten b Donald 19
D C Cronje not out 8
Extras (lb 1, w 5, nb 1) 7
Total (5 wickets, 50 overs) 137
K R Patterson, C Z Harris, D N Patel, C L Calne, G Larsen and W Watson did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-114, 2-115, 3-179, 4-180, 5-180, 6-180, 7-180, 8-180, 9-180, 10-180, 11-180, 12-180, 13-180, 14-180, 15-180, 16-180, 17-180, 18-180, 19-180, 20-180, 21-180, 22-180, 23-180, 24-180, 25-180, 26-180, 27-180, 28-180, 29-180, 30-180.

BOWLING: Patterson 10-0-25-1; Marshall 10-0-25-1; Benjamin 10-0-27-3; Cummins 10-0-27-3; Hooper 10-0-27-2; Arnotton 4-0-25-0.

Man of the match: S C Lee.
Umpires: K Liebenberg (South Africa) and S J Woodward (New Zealand).

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Opening
flurry
buoys the
hosts

Great Britain's young athletes succeed in the place of more established champions

Yates earns gold from the front

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT, IN GENOA

MATTHEW Yates won the European indoor 1,500 metres title here yesterday and, though barely aged 23, he was the grand old man among British medal winners on the final day, Britain's established champions were not available but their young understudies made an outstanding job of filling their shoes.

Yates's first international title came after an assured display of front-running. In the final track event, he gave Britain its second gold after Jason Livingston had won the 60 metres on Saturday.

John Maycock, aged 21, won a silver in the 3,000 metres and David Grindley, aged 19, a bronze in the 400 metres. The more seasoned competitors in the team who had been expected to challenge, such as Ade Mafe in the 400 metres, were unable to deliver.

Yates took the lead after 500 metres and, with 550 metres to run, stretched away. He looked safe at the bell but, in the frantic chase for medals, Sergey Melnikov, of the CIS, and Branko Zorko, of Croatia, closed fast towards the end. But Yates had timed his run to perfection and his winning time of 3min 42.32, though unexpected, proved sufficient.

Maycock's days as an afterthought for the team sheet should be numbered now. When he won the World Student Games 1,500 metres last summer he was asked to run at eight days' notice and then only because Terry Thornton had dropped out injured. For these championships Maycock was among the late additions announced little more than a week ago.

Now, after an indoor career stretching only four races, two of them here, he has a medal from his first senior international championship.

At the bell he looked medal material only to those who

knew of his devastating finish. He was seventh but picked his way through to take all but Gennaro Di Napoli, who won in 7min 47.24sec. Maycock, who arrived with a best of 8:01.54, left at Britain's seventh fastest of all-time with 7:48.47.

Although his main successes have come at the longer distances — he was English Schools champion at 3,000 metres — he is determined to prove his worth at 1,500 metres. He has been advised by Peter Elliott, the Commonwealth champion with whom he trains, that, at his young age, he should try the shorter distance at least for this year's Olympics.

Grindley has been to three international championships and returned home with medals each time. He won a world junior relay medal and European junior gold before entering the senior ranks.

By taking half a second off his best he has risen to seventh in the British all-time list. He recorded 46.08sec behind the 46.33sec of the veteran, Slodobran Brankovic, of Yugoslavia. Grindley, like Maycock, came here believing that simply to have reached the final would have been an achievement.

Livingston ran 6.53sec to win here and the match against the United States in Birmingham on March 14 is one to look forward to, especially if the US brings its world record holder, Andre Mason.



Fast finish: Yates takes the tape to win the European indoor 1,500 metres

Men: 60m: 1. J. Livingston (GB), 6.53sec; 2. V. S. Smith (GB), 6.84; 3. M. P. Maycock (GB), 6.87; 4. J. Thornton (GB), 7.00; 5. J. Maycock (GB), 7.04; 6. J. Thornton (GB), 7.08; 7. J. Maycock (GB), 7.12; 8. J. Thornton (GB), 7.16; 9. J. Maycock (GB), 7.20; 10. J. Thornton (GB), 7.24; 11. J. Maycock (GB), 7.28; 12. J. Thornton (GB), 7.32; 13. J. Maycock (GB), 7.36; 14. J. Thornton (GB), 7.40; 15. J. Maycock (GB), 7.44; 16. J. Thornton (GB), 7.48; 17. J. Maycock (GB), 7.52; 18. J. Thornton (GB), 7.56; 19. J. Maycock (GB), 7.60; 20. J. Thornton (GB), 7.64; 21. J. Maycock (GB), 7.68; 22. J. Thornton (GB), 7.72; 23. J. Maycock (GB), 7.76; 24. J. Thornton (GB), 7.80; 25. J. Maycock (GB), 7.84; 26. J. Thornton (GB), 7.88; 27. J. Maycock (GB), 7.92; 28. J. Thornton (GB), 7.96; 29. J. Maycock (GB), 8.00; 30. J. Thornton (GB), 8.04; 31. J. Maycock (GB), 8.08; 32. J. Thornton (GB), 8.12; 33. J. Maycock (GB), 8.16; 34. J. Thornton (GB), 8.20; 35. J. Maycock (GB), 8.24; 36. J. 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THE TIMES SPORT

MONDAY MARCH 2 1992

Mansell takes command right from the start

FROM NORMAN HOWELL
IN JOHANNESBURG

NIGEL Mansell yesterday won the South African grand prix on the Kyalami circuit here, the first race of the 1992 Formula One season. After the bitter and burning disappointment of last season, this was the ideal start for the Englishman.

He led from the start and finished more than 24 seconds ahead of his Williams-Renault team-mate, Riccardo Patrese. Ayrton Senna, the world champion, driving a McLaren, was third. So the race confirmed all that had been promised: that Williams-Renault has stolen the initiative from McLaren, the constructors' champions.

Johnny Herbert was also in the points. He drove his Lotus to a deserved sixth place, while Mika Hakkinen also brought home his Lotus, in ninth place, on a day when

13 cars did not finish. Lotus's achievement is all the more remarkable when compared to the disastrous day Ferrari had. Both their cars blew engines, while the Dallaras, also powered by Ferrari, retired as well.

"Mansell cracks the Brazilian nut," read one of the many banners that festooned the main stand. He did that and much more as he forced, all through the weekend, the Brazilian and his team to race conservatively in order to get the points and keep in touch with the Anglo-French team.

Mansell has now established the kind of psychological ascendancy his rival had on him a year ago, though he is loath to admit this. "I can't be complacent about this advantage," as Ayrton, and McLaren, is a formidable foe. But it has been a great four days. Even when we did have a crisis — my race car



Wave reviews: Mansell celebrates his flying start to the season yesterday

developed an electrical fault which had the mechanics working until 4am — we solved it through the in-depth ability of our team. The spare car was perfect, and that is what I won in."

So, Mansell repeated his triumph of seven years ago in the last South African grand prix, but the country has changed beyond recognition since then. There were blacks as well as white among the crowd of 92,000 and during a walkabout, minutes before the race, the foreign minister, Fik Botha, met and

shook hands with Cyril Ramaphosa, the deputy leader of the African National Congress. It provided the right mood for a race free of controversy and acrimony.

The start was sensational. Mansell had said that the start on this circuit would be a race within the race. But it was not Senna who threatened Mansell into the first corner, but Patrese. He came out fast and for a moment looked as if he was going to overtake Mansell after squeezing through a gap between the two McLarens.

But Mansell held on and soared away: ten seconds ahead of Patrese after 11 laps, 22 seconds after 26. There was not much of a battle behind as Patrese easily held off Senna's challenge, which Senna admitted was opportunistic. "I stayed close to Patrese hoping to get a chance during the lapping of other cars or in case he had a fault of some kind," he said. "But he proved to be reliable and I am happy with third place. I am looking forward to a new car, though."

The new McLaren-Honda will be introduced at Silverstone tomorrow, but it is unlikely that it will be raced before the Brazilian grand prix in April. Until then, Mansell will surely be trying to create the same buffer Senna did last season.

Yesterday, Mansell strove to extend his advantage, knowing that when it came to lapping the backmarkers, imponderables could happen. But they did not and Mansell even indulged in a bit of fast driving, setting lap records, the last on the seventh lap, two from the end. It was heart-in-the-mouth time as memories of Canada last year came back, but this time, despite the pounding the engine was getting, the Williams-Renault lasted the course, while Mansell made sure he waved after crossing the finish line.

RESULT (72 laps, 304.750km): 1. N. Mansell (GB), Williams, 1hr 56m 45.82sec (average speed 150.248mph); 2. R. Patrese (It), Williams, 24.36sec behind; 3. A. Senna (Br), McLaren, 34.57sec; 4. M. Schumacher (Ger), Benetton, 47.86sec; 5. G. Berger (Aus), McLaren, 1:13.63; 6. J. Herbert (GB), Lotus, 1:17.7; 7. E. Comas (Fr), Ligier, 1:18.4; 8. A. Suzuki (Jpn), Footwork, 1:18.4; 9. S. Amon (NZ), Lotus, 2:10.1; 10. M. Alboreto (It), Footwork, 2:11.1; 11. M. Capelli (Fr), Jordan, 2:12.1; 12. U. Kuylenstierna (Swe), Larrousse, 4:13.1; 13. E. van de Poele (Bel), Brabham, 4:14.1; 14. O. Grouillard (Fr), Tyrrell, 10:15.1; 15. T. Burtis (Bel), Ligier, 12:16.1; 16. P. Menard (Fr), Ligier, 12:17.1; 17. G. Hovind (No), Ligier, 17:18.1; 18. J. J. Lehto (Fin), Dallara, 28:19.1; 19. C. Fittipaldi (Brz), 28:20.1; 20. A. de Cesaris (It), Tyrrell, 31:21.1; 21. J. Alesi (Fr), Tyrrell, 31:22.1.

Qualifying (72 laps, 304.750km): 1. N. Mansell (GB), Williams, 1:16.227; 2. R. Patrese (It), Williams, 1:16.988; 3. A. Senna (Br), McLaren, 1:17.528; 4. M. Schumacher (Ger), Benetton, 1:18.327; 5. G. Berger (Aus), McLaren, 1:18.387; 6. J. Herbert (GB), Lotus, 1:18.4; 7. E. Comas (Fr), Ligier, 1:18.4; 8. A. Suzuki (Jpn), Footwork, 1:18.4; 9. S. Amon (NZ), Lotus, 2:10.1; 10. M. Alboreto (It), Footwork, 2:11.1; 11. M. Capelli (Fr), Jordan, 2:12.1; 12. U. Kuylenstierna (Swe), Larrousse, 4:13.1; 13. E. van de Poele (Bel), Brabham, 4:14.1; 14. O. Grouillard (Fr), Tyrrell, 10:15.1; 15. T. Burtis (Bel), Ligier, 12:16.1; 16. P. Menard (Fr), Ligier, 12:17.1; 17. G. Hovind (No), Ligier, 17:18.1; 18. J. J. Lehto (Fin), Dallara, 28:19.1; 19. C. Fittipaldi (Brz), 28:20.1; 20. A. de Cesaris (It), Tyrrell, 31:21.1; 21. J. Alesi (Fr), Tyrrell, 31:22.1.

Tottenham Hotspur outplayed in White Hart Lane mud

Keane takes Forest to another cup final

Tottenham Hotspur..... 1
Nottingham Forest..... 2

BY STUART JONES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

NEITHER the mud, the rain, security alerts nor the opposition could deny Nottingham Forest another visit to their spiritual home. They were delayed, by three and a half hours at White Hart Lane yesterday, but eventually they won the right to appear at Wembley for the sixth time in four years.

Roy Keane, with a forceful header decided the protracted second leg of the Rumbelows Cup semi-final, the staging of which was in doubt. Scheduled to start at 3.25pm, the kick-off was postponed for more than an hour to allow the police to search the ground for explosive devices.

The tie was extended by half an hour and the extra time, combined with the dispiriting defeat, will surely have diminished Tottenham Hotspur's chances in the European Cup Winners' Cup. On Wednesday they play the

MATCH FACTS									
At White Hart Lane, Att: 28,216. Ref: J. Worrall					TOTTENHAM 1 NOTTM FOR 2 (ast)				
HT: 1-1. TOTTENHAM 1 NOTTM FOR 2 (ast)					Scorers: Lineker 15 Glover 11, Keane 100				
Bookings: Sube: Samways 85 (Nayim)					Edinburgh 108 (Fenwick)				
Shots (on target/total): 7 13 5 11					Corners (left/right): 2 2 2 2				
Crosses (left/right): 22 22 11 21					Free kicks/pens agnst: 18 11 14 10				
Offsides: 42 125 80 125					Possession (gained/lost): 42 125 80 125				
TOTTENHAM (4-4-2)					NOTTM FOREST (4-4-2)				
Player Goal Attempts					Player Goal Attempts				
E. Thorpe 1					M. Crossley 1				
S. Lineker 1					S. Pearce 1				
P. V. D. Hecke 1					D. Walker 1				
S. Sedgley 1					D. Widdowson 1				
G. Madsen 1					R. Keane 1				
G. Madsen 1					S. Gennell 1				
G. Madsen 1					N. Clough 1				
G. Madsen 1					T. Shreeves 1				
G. Madsen 1					L. Glover 1				

first leg of their quarter-final against Feyenoord in Rotterdam.

Peter Shreeves, their manager, revealed that he will merely hold a roll call tomorrow to discover which of his players will be available. Of

several casualties Fenwick, who withdrew with a groin strain is considered the most serious.

Forest, elated by their triumph in an arena where they have not lost for seven years, suffered no such problems. Indeed, they finished with their original lineup in spite of conditions which were apt to be a mudpud.

Brian Clough, their manager, paid tribute to both sides. "After all the trauma throughout the day it was a superb game and a credit to both clubs," he said. "It is nice to go back to Wembley. We know the gatesman and the stewards and we like the dressing rooms."

After being forced to wait in their team bus while the area was cleared, Forest started the quicker and took the lead within a dozen minutes. By then they had already threatened, principally, by running at their opponents from deep in midfield.

They found a predictable way through when Glover, who was preferred to Black, attempted to exchange passes typically on the edge of the area with Gemmell. Although the idea seemed to have

broken down, the ball bounced kindly for the winger and he drove smartly past Thorpe.

Tottenham were still unable to protect themselves from incursions when Lineker fashioned a goal apparently out of nothing. In seven previous contests with Walker, he had claimed only a penalty but on this occasion he was guarded, surprisingly, by Wassell.

Lineker found enough space, as Drurie curled in a cross, to head home his 25th goal of the season. He was aided by the conditions since the ball skidded off the turf and under the reach of Crossley.

Until the interval, Tottenham were the more convincing side. Stewart, another to find freedom inside the area, had his shot turned onto a post and Nayim's attempt to prod home the rebound was blocked.

Forest were, in turn, the more productive both in the second half and after the end of normal time. Skipping over the puddles, they still maintained their passing game, which was eventually to be decisive. Yet it was not until the hundredth minute that Keane claimed the winner from Crosby's corner.

Shreeves imagined that his side would be physically the stronger and therefore the more positive force. "I would have to say that I got that one wrong," he conceded. "I have no complaints about the commitment of my players, though they are exhausted. And Feyenoord will be delighted that we've had that extra half hour."

The Dutch opponents have not played for ten days. Tottenham's captain, also has a sore groin but he and Nayim, who was also substituted, are expected to recover in time. Yet there can be no doubt that the squad will be defeated for the game which represents their only hope of gaining an honour this season.

More football, page 30



Dive of delight: Alec Stewart displays his wicketkeeping skills to catch Wasim Haider off the bowling of Dermot Reeve in England's abandoned draw with Pakistan in Adelaide yesterday. Report, page 32

Walsh leads West Indies team

FROM RICHARD STREETON
IN BRIDGETOWN

ANY uncertainty England A held about the strength of the opposition in the unofficial Test matches on their West Indies tour have quickly been resolved.

Courtesy Walsh has been named captain for the first game in the three-match series in Trinidad from March 14 to 17. He is one of four fast bowlers in the side and is also one of the four Test players included.

Walsh has recently shown unsuspected captaincy skills as he led an inexperienced Jamaica team to the regional Red Stripe championship. Doubts about his throwing arm in the field cost him a place in the World Cup party but a record 36 wickets in the tournament confirmed that he retains his bowling skill.

Tony Gray, formerly with Surrey, and two younger men, Linden Joseph and Kenneth Benjamin, are the other fast bowlers. Gray won five caps in 1986

but never developed into another Joel Garner as was once hoped. His career, though, is now going through a renaissance and he played in the one-day games against Australia on their tour here last year.

England have worked hard in temperatures around 80° since they arrived from Bermuda, though Stephenson has trod carefully following his strained side last week.

The programme starts with a one-day game against Barbados on Wednesday, the

only limited-over fixture on the itinerary. Two three-day matches and the unofficial Tests follow.

Angus Fraser, the England and Middlesex fast bowler, had his first outdoor bowl yesterday, since a hip operation last October, when he joined the England A team practice. He is on holiday in Barbados and felt no reaction after 20 minutes bowling.

He is gradually regaining strength and hopes to join the pre-season Middlesex tour to Portugal in early April.

Yorkshire's move annoys Appleyard

BY MARTIN SEARBY

FOUR former Yorkshire cricketers were yesterday considering their futures as committee men after the members voted to reduce the electoral districts in the county from 17 to four — each with three representatives, only one of whom can be a former player.

The resolution drew 71.8

per cent of the votes at the annual meeting of the club in Sheffield and means that only one of Brian Close, Bob Appleyard and Bryan Stott may stand for the new Central area, which amalgamates the Leeds, Bradford, Craven and Wharfedale districts.

Either Geoff Boycott or Bob Platt will represent the West area, comprising Huddersfield, Halifax, Dewsbury

and Wakefield, while only Phil Sharpe is secure in the North — Harrogate, Hull, Scarborough, North Riding and York. The South area, which is made up of Sheffield, Doncaster, Rotherham and Barnsley, does not have any former players.

"I shall not stand again," Appleyard said. "After all the service I have given the club, on and off the field, I feel very

upset at such a snub. The new system is fundamentally unfair to ex-players because most of them come from the heartland of the West Riding."

Yorkshire meet today to decide how to implement the changes, which also cut the committee numbers from 23 to 12, and must be in place before the next annual meeting.

Cooke urges England to aim high

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THERE was cold comfort for Wales from Twickenham on St David's Day. England's grand slam-seeking squad trained, relaxed to make a charity film with the comedians, Hale and Pace, and then Geoff Cooke, their manager, declared the task he has set his players is far from accomplished.

"We are a bit off our target of being the best in the world," Cooke said. "The northern hemisphere is not enough for England, for whom victory over Wales at Twickenham on Saturday would mean a second successive grand slam and five nations' championship. 'Until we can beat New Zealand, South Africa, and Australia we are still only a step down the road, the job's only half finished."

"We had one chance to beat New Zealand and we didn't

We have managed to beat Australia once in five attempts while I have been manager." Cooke would like to remain in that position until the 1995 World Cup but the Rugby Football Union, whose committee meets on Friday, has yet to confirm his honorary position beyond April.

Placing England's achievements into perspective is of obvious value for Cooke, to balance the general assumption that England have only to turn up on Saturday to win. "There will be no sense of complacency," he added.

"Most of us have learned the lesson of Murrayfield two years ago. We know Wales have been thinking of nothing else for four weeks, they will have studied us on video, they will know exactly how we want to play and it will be a hard game. Their pack is as good as any in the five nations and their back row is particularly strong."

Will Carling, the captain, emphasised his players' view of the opposition. "I think this [Welsh] team is a lot better than the ones we have played in the last two years," he said. "They have a much better spirit, much better organisation, they know what they're trying to do. I respect Alan Davies as a coach and I have



Cooke: setting target

Birmingham to ban invaders for life

BY DENNIS SHAW

BIRMINGHAM City are to ban for life all those supporters caught in connection with the pitch invasion at St Andrew's on Saturday.

The club made the announcement after it came known that both Samesh Kumar, the Birmingham chairman, and Terry Cooper, the manager, were considering their futures. The club faces severe punishment by the Football Association and both men were badly shaken by the reaction to a last-minute Birmingham goal against Stoke, which was disallowed by the referee, Roger Wiseman. Last night they were considering their futures.

Cooper is a target for managerless Bristol City and Kumar may be tempted to put the club up for sale.

A severe punishment for the riot in which the referee was assaulted and the match abandoned — before he restarted play in an empty stadium — looks certain. Adverse police evidence, the referee's report and the inevitable tough line by the FA provide a damning combination for a club with an already poor record.

But Kumar reckons that in the light of the genuine efforts made, Birmingham needs help and sympathy. "Fining or closing clubs has never solved the problem," he said. "If the FA looks at everything we have done and comes up with more positive ideas to beat the thugs, I would welcome it."

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